Government of
Saskatchewan

2006 - 2007
Annual Report

Saskatchewan
Environment

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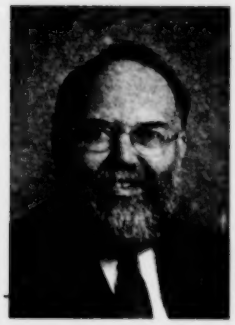
This document can be found online at: www.se.gov.sk.ca

Letters of Transmittal



July 2007

His Honour the Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May It Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Department of Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Nilson, Q.C.
Minister of Environment

July 2007

The Honourable John T. Nilson, Q.C.
Minister of Environment

Dear Sir:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

Saskatchewan Environment made good progress during 2006-07, completing several important accomplishments with support from our many partners and stakeholders. We have increased the Department's profile on the national stage, demonstrating leadership in several areas. We have played a leadership role in the development of Government's Green Strategy, completed the Great Sand Hills Regional Environmental Study, implemented recycling programs for waste paint and electronic waste, celebrated the provincial parks 75th anniversary, and played a key role in developing the Province's Energy and Climate Change Strategy.

Throughout 2006-07, the Department focused on three strategic areas: the Green Strategy; organizational re-alignment; and enhanced management.

Saskatchewan Environment worked diligently with stakeholders, other Government departments and agencies to finalize the provincial Green Strategy. This new long-term strategy provides the foundation for the Province to address emerging environmental issues and to ensure sustainable growth of our Province. The Green Initiatives Fund demonstrates the Government's commitment to develop and implement environmental innovation by supporting

private industry, municipalities and non-governmental organizations to introduce new projects that improve the environment.

The Green Strategy, together with the Energy and Climate Change Plan and the Province's economic development strategy, will achieve the Province's overall vision of, and commitment to, a green and prosperous economy. The recently announced Minister's Council on Sustainability and Climate Change will provide ongoing advice to the Province on developing a sustainable future and responding to the challenges of climate change.

As part of an overall effort to better focus our operations on our core mandates, we re-aligned our structure so related functions can work more closely and more collaboratively. In conjunction with the new organization structure, the Department engaged an external consultant to assist with a review of our Department's performance measures and how we link individual workplans to the organization's objectives and performance measures. The goal is to develop a stronger set of organizational performance measures and do a better job of having staff understand how their work aligns with and contributes to the goals of the Department.

In addition, the consultant is coaching senior managers on how to apply performance management principles to build a best practice organization and become an "employer of choice" in the Province.

Saskatchewan Environment is addressing each of the Provincial Auditor's observations and recommendations to improve the Department's effectiveness and accountability. We are applying financial management best practices throughout the Department: automated controls; high quality financial performance measures; timely analysis; formal codes of conduct; and transparent and accountable financial transactions.

On a sadder note, on May 14, 2006, during a training flight of one of the Department's new planes, there was a crash killing one of the pilots and injuring two others.

In closing, I want to recognize and extend my appreciation to staff for their continued professionalism and dedication to resource and environmental management. Many thanks also to stakeholders and members of the public who support the many programs and services the Department administers throughout the Province.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Parkinson
Deputy Minister

Introduction

Saskatchewan is blessed with an abundance of natural resources and a clean and healthy environment. Still, there are increasing pressures on our environment from the cumulative impact of human actions. Our Province's current and long-term prosperity depends on the proper protection, development and management of our environment and natural resources.

This year's Annual Report outlines Saskatchewan Environment's progress, results and performance measures over the April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007 period. Management is responsible for ensuring that this report reflects all relevant circumstances and decisions. The 2006-07 Annual Report reports to the public, stakeholders, staff and the legislature on the results achieved against key actions included in the government-wide Budget and Performance Plan Summary for 2006-07, which was released with the 2006-07 budget, available at: www.gov.sk.ca/finance/budget/.

Enhancements to this year's report include a new objective on Safe and Sustainable Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems and the addition of a number of performance measures and graphical trend information for more of our performance measures. Improvements in the annual report are tied to continued implementation of the Government's system of planning, measuring and reporting. Reporting actual results, both financial and performance, compared to the plan released earlier in the year, is the cornerstone of our accountability to the public. Saskatchewan Environment's 2007-08 Performance Plan was released with the provincial budget on March 22, 2007 and can be found at: www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate/2007-08PerformancePlan.pdf.

Who We Are

Mandate - The mandate of Saskatchewan Environment is to protect and manage Saskatchewan's environmental and natural resources so as to maintain a high level of environmental quality, ensure sustainable development, and provide economic and social benefits for present and future generations.

Vision - Saskatchewan Environment's vision is "A high quality environment and healthy ecosystems in perpetuity which sustain social, health and economic well-being for all Saskatchewan citizens."

Key Programs and Services - The Department works to fulfill this mandate by promoting stewardship of the air, land, water, and wild plants and animals throughout the Province. Key responsibilities in relation to natural resources include forest management, wildland fire management, parks, Crown land, and fish and wildlife management. Saskatchewan Environment also has management responsibilities to prevent pollution of provincial air, water and land, which it delivers through activities such as coordinating the environmental assessment program, air quality monitoring, water quality management and activities to control potential impacts of contaminated sites, hazardous goods, landfills and other similar sources of pollution.

Saskatchewan Environment recognizes that effective environmental stewardship requires shared responsibility for the decisions made and actions needed among stakeholders and the public. Saskatchewan Environment uses processes of co-management, partnership, public involvement, communications and education to build understanding among individuals and organizations of environmental challenges and to ensure that decisions needed are understood and well-informed by a wide range of community, economic and individual concerns.

Some of the legislation administered by Saskatchewan Environment that comprises the major tools for ensuring sustainable development and effective pollution prevention and resource management throughout the Province include: The Environmental Assessment Act; The Environmental Management and Protection Act; The Forest Resources Management Act; The Prairie and Forest Fires Act; The Wildlife Act; The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994; and The Provincial Lands Act.

Department Organization - Program management and delivery is now actioned by three divisions: the Environmental Management Division; Conservation Division; and Lands and Forests Division. Each has a provincial mandate.

The Environmental Management Division includes the functions of Environmental Protection, Environmental Assessment, and Environmental Monitoring. It also includes the Planning and Policy function, Aboriginal Affairs, and Green Strategy coordination.

The Conservation Division is made up of the Parks, Fish and Wildlife, Compliance and Ecosystem Conservation functions. The focus of this division is to conserve and protect outdoor recreation opportunities and the natural ecosystems that support them.

The Lands and Forests Division is composed of the Forestry, Wildfire, Crown Lands and Geomatics functions. The focus of this division is to maintain and protect Crown assets and manage the flow of public benefits.

Central Support Services including Finance and Administration, Communications, and Human Resources all report to the Deputy Minister.

The Department maintained 52 field offices strategically located in communities throughout the Province and delivered a broad range of programs with 1,337.4 Full-Time Equivalent positions for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

Key Partners - Goal 1 of the plan "Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems" is in part dependent on the success of recycling programs offered by SARCAN (www.sarcsarcan.ca), a major recipient of third party funding from the Department, and independent industry-created organizations like the Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (www.scraptire.sk.ca) and Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corporation (www.usedoilrecycling.com). Saskatchewan Environment administers the legislation governing these organizations, but has no direct influence over the performance of recycling activities.

The urban park authorities receive funding from Saskatchewan Environment and independently operate their respective parks. Saskatchewan Environment also funds the Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association and the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority is responsible for protecting, conserving and managing the surface and groundwater resources in the Province. The Deputy Minister of Saskatchewan Environment is the Chair of the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Board of Directors. Saskatchewan Environment and Saskatchewan Watershed Authority work closely with other partners to ensure the safety and quality of source waters in the Province.

Partners who deliver services on behalf of the Department have finance and operational reporting requirements outlined in their contracts or other operating agreements.

Benefits - The quality of the environment, the strength of the economy and the health of Saskatchewan people are dependent on each other. Saskatchewan Environment works to protect and manage our Province's natural environment and its contribution to the standard of living and quality of life of Saskatchewan's residents.

- Health - clean water to drink, clean air to breath and clean land to support us are the building blocks to healthy societies.
- Ecosystem - healthy ecosystems provide a multitude of ecological benefits to humans including water purification, flood control, soil fertility, pollination, seed dispersal, food and others.
- Society - The health and beauty of Saskatchewan's natural environment contribute to our physical and mental well-being. Our Province's history, culture and economy are intimately linked to the land and nature.
- Economy - renewable resources (forestry, wildlife, fisheries, etc.) provide employment to thousands of Saskatchewan citizens and generate more than a billion dollars a year to our economy.
    - Forestry initiatives in northern Saskatchewan support thousands of jobs. The forest industry is in a significant downturn. Statistics Canada reports that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of forestry and logging has gone down from $109 million in 2005 to $46 million in 2006, which is approximately a 58 per cent decline. However, the value-added industries that depend on forest products for raw material, which comprise the large majority of economic activities and jobs, did not suffer as much. For example, the GDP of wood product manufacturing decreased from $340 million to $313 million during the same time period, which is an eight per cent decline. In spite of the recent downturn the industry remains a major employer and there is continued potential for expansion in Saskatchewan.

- Saskatchewan's environmental industry (recycling, consulting, conservation, manufacturing) remains strong and is positioned for growth in the future, according to the *Report on the Environmental Technology Sector in Western Canada* (November 2003).
- Tourists to provincial parks spend over $122 million annually leading to the creation of approximately 1000 full-time-equivalent jobs and an impact of over $34 million to the GDP. Many rural communities rely on parks as a market for their local businesses and for employment opportunities.
- There were 197,000 hunting licenses sold in 2006. Out-of-province and Saskatchewan long-haul hunters contributed $116 million to the economy, which added $38 million to the provincial GDP and created 1,055 full-time-equivalent jobs.
- There were 184,000 fishing licenses sold in 2006. Angling visitors to provincial lakes and rivers contributed $214 million to the economy, which added $54 million to the provincial GDP and created 1,543 full-time-equivalent jobs.
- Saskatchewan Environment directly generated $52.2 million in revenue in 2006-07 from a variety of sources, such as fishing and hunting licence sales, forestry permits and dues, land sales and leases, etc.
- Saskatchewan Environment programs also support sustainable development in the agricultural, mining, oil and gas, energy and manufacturing sectors, which contribute over $9 billion to the provincial economy.

2006-07 Results at a Glance

This section provides a summary of Saskatchewan Environment's most significant performance results or areas requiring further attention. Results are presented in a concise manner in this summary. More detailed information will follow in the next section of the report.

Summary of Performance Results

Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

- Secured over 25,000 acres of perpetual conservation easements in partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Nature Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation.
- Planted over 2 million trees in the provincial forest as part of the Government renewal program.
- Continued to lead a national strategy for the management of chronic wasting disease.
- No significant change reported in water and air quality.
- Conducted inspections of 832 waterworks and 547 sewage works.
- The first report of the Southeast Saskatchewan Airshed Association was completed.

Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

- During a three-week period in late June and early July a large number of fires occurred near several communities, putting a strain on the Department's resources during that time.
- There were a total of 501 fire starts in 2006, compared to the 10-year average of 644 starts.
- Investment in fire prevention activities appear to be working; human-caused starts were at 34 per cent of the total 501 fires this year, well down from the long-term average of 50 per cent.
- Renewal of the fire-fighting aircraft fleet is progressing on target with receipt of two new CV580A airtankers. These new planes, along with other enhancements to the aerial fleet and the fire tower network will help improve the fire management program.

Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

- Completed the Regional Environmental Study for the Great Sand Hills area.
- 75th anniversary celebrations throughout the provincial parks system were very successful resulting in near record visitation of over 2.5 million visits.
- Recent polling indicates visitor satisfaction with provincial parks increased to 79 per cent.
- Free entry to provincial parks and free angling licences were provided for all Saskatchewan residents 65 years of age and over for 2006-07 as part of the provincial Seniors' Gold Plan.

Goal 4: Shared Environmental Stewardship

- Saskatchewan has among the highest recycling rates in Canada and is now one of two provinces in Canada with an electronic waste recycling program and one of four provinces with a waste paint-recycling program.
- Led completion of the Province's Green Strategy including funding for new initiatives by Saskatchewan Environment partners.
- Coordinated review of 134 Treaty Land Entitlement selection requests involving nearly 160,000 acres of Crown and private land.
- Maintained a consistent number of relationships relative to last year with First Nations and Métis groups.
- A specialized environmental prosecutor is now in place.

Summary of Financial Results

The 2006-07 approved appropriation was $215.4 million, which includes $12.9 million approved in supplementary estimates in November 2006. Total 2006-07 expenditures were $215.3 million, a variance of $76,000 from the Department's revised estimates. This variance is mainly due to the below average fire activity.

The Department's forecasted revenue was $44.1 million for 2006-07. Actual revenue recorded by the Department was $52.2 million. This increased revenue from the initial forecast is mainly due to SARCAN, and fishing and hunting licence sales.

In 2006-07, Saskatchewan Environment's Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) budget was 1,337.4.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for three funds: Fish and Wildlife Development Fund; Commercial Revolving Fund; and Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund. Explanations and financial statements of these funds are found on pages 50-62.

2006-07 Performance Results

This section provides detailed information on progress that Saskatchewan Environment has made on the key actions in the Department's 2006-07 Performance Plan (http://www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate/2006-07PerformancePlan.pdf) and variances in the performance measures. The key actions presented in our 2006-07 Performance Plan (released April 2006) are listed below, followed by a report on actual progress for each. Actual results information is included for all key actions and performance measures that were published in our 2006-07 Performance Plan, as well as for all commitments related to Saskatchewan Environment in the government-wide performance plan summary. Further information about Saskatchewan Environment's performance measures is available in our 2006-07 Performance Plan.

- Annual performance information is used to assess overall progress towards goals and objectives each year, as well as any changes to risks facing the environment, which in turn inform/adjust future plans and actions.

Goal 1 - Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

Objective 1 – Reduce Impacts to Surface and Groundwater Quality

Good quality surface and groundwater is essential to protect human and animal health, as well as to support economic and social uses. Saskatchewan Environment's strategy to manage this issue is to set water quality standards and guidelines for both surface and groundwater, promote pollution prevention and safe use, respond to specific risks and threats and regulate water and sewage discharges from large point sources such as municipalities and industrial users. Saskatchewan Environment also ensures water quality is monitored and assessed.

Saskatchewan continues to face growing pressure in terms of water demand. Trends in climate change indicate that proper protection and management of water sources will become increasingly important to meet both quantity and quality demands. Key factors that have the potential to drive the cost of water source protection programs include effects of energy, industry, irrigation and domestic consumption demands, and risk of water source contamination. In the longer term the effects of climate change and related land use issues will greatly impact source water protection programs.

Saskatchewan Environment uses the Water Quality Index as a measure of performance results for this objective. The Department will, over time, expand the application of this measure to more watersheds and explore the feasibility of broadening the measures used for this objective to include a measure of water use per capita.

The Province created the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) in 2002 to develop new approaches to address water use and protection concerns. Saskatchewan Watershed Authority is working with stakeholders to help develop public stewardship programs for many of the Province's watersheds.

Key Results

- Lead development of the federal/provincial Municipal Wastewater Effluents (MWWE) Project. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - Completed. Saskatchewan Environment continued as champion and chair of a sub-committee of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment charged with the development of a Canada-wide strategy for municipal wastewater effluents.
  - A revised draft strategy and the environmental risk management model to protect source waters were both completed and nation-wide consultation was largely completed.
  - It is anticipated that the Canada-wide strategy will be completed in 2007-08.

- Monitor water quality and ensure the public has access to information on ground and surface water quality. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Regular sampling conducted by Saskatchewan Environment and Saskatchewan Watershed Authority at the Province's primary surface water quality sites.

- Contribute to the development of an integrated water management strategy. [2006-07 Performance Pl
  - ~ Completed. Saskatchewan Environment participated in a committee of federal and provincial agencies with direct involvement in water issues to develop an integrated water management framework and strategy for the Province. Work is progressing as scheduled with completion anticipated in 2007.

Saskatchewan's Safe Drinking Water Strategy, annual safe drinking water performance plans and annual reports are available on the Internet at www.se.gov.sk.ca and at www.SaskH2O.ca/news.asp. Detailed information by community is available at www.SaskH2O.ca/MyDrinkingWater.asp. Saskatchewan Watershed Authority issues performance plans and annual reports, which may be viewed at www.swa.ca/publications.

Measurement Results

Water Quality Index (WQI) ratings for lakes

Waterbody	WQI Rating (March 2004)		WQI Rating 2005*		WQI Rating 2006*	
Good Spirit Lake	83.9	Good	88.5	Good	91.9	Good
Jackfish Lake	56.4	Marginal	64.3	Fair	68.7	Fair
Murray Lake	67.6	Fair	86.8	Good	91.5	Good

[Source: Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, water quality monitoring results, 2006]

* Modifications for these performance measures were required during 2006-07 to allow for greater accuracy and improved clarity. The objectives of the Water Quality Index were updated to be consistent with Saskatchewan's Surface Water Quality Objectives, which were changed in 2006. As a result of the above changes, the baseline data for the Water Quality Index rating for rivers have effectively been re-calculated and re-established to 2005 and 2006, respectively.

Water Quality Index (WQI) ratings for rivers

River System	*WQI Rating (March 2004)*	*5 year rolling average* WQI Rating*		*15 year rolling average* WQI Rating*	
Assiniboine River**	Good to excellent	75.5	Fair	75.2	Fair
Beaver River**	Good to excellent	75.5	Fair	76.2	Fair
Churchill River**	Excellent	92.9	Good	93.3	Good
North Saskatchewan River**	Good to excellent	70.9	Fair	71.5	Fair
Moose Jaw River***	Poor to fair	Insufficient data		Insufficient data	
Qu'Appelle River**	Fair to good	66.2	Fair	66.8	Fair
Souris River	Fair to good	Insufficient data		Insufficient data	
South Saskatchewan River**	Good to excellent	100.0	Excellent	91.6	Good

[Source: Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, water quality monitoring results, 2006.
Data consists of a five-year and 15-year rolling average, starting in 2006 and 4 and 14 years previous respectively.]

* Modifications for these performance measures were required during 2006-07 to allow for greater accuracy and improved clarity. The objectives of the Water Quality Index were updated to be consistent with Saskatchewan's Surface Water Quality Objectives, which were changed in 2006. As a result of the above changes, the baseline data for the Water Quality Index rating for rivers have effectively been re-calculated and re-established to 2005 and 2006, respectively. For the river sites, the Water Quality Index is now calculated on a rolling 5 year and rolling 15 year average which helps buffer potential significant flow influence on the Index (which can lead to incorrect observations and conclusions). The rolling five year Water Quality Index averages for the rivers are heavily (60 per cent) weighted for the current year of the cycle (2006) with the remaining 40 per cent spread out over 2005 to 2002.
** Prairie Provinces Water Board monitoring site.
*** Major water quality concerns along the Moose Jaw River stem from nutrients and suspended solids from man-made sources (wastewater discharge and agricultural activities) and natural variation (flow, run-off and snow melt).

The Water Quality Index (WQI), which is based on the national index developed by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, is an overall measure of the quality of water for specific uses such as the protection of aquatic life, livestock watering and recreation. The index is a composite of measurements of different chemicals and organisms in the water at safe levels for a particular use. It is a good measure of the quality of surface or groundwater and can help expose issues and risks impacting surface and groundwater quality.

Modifications were required during 2006-07 to allow for greater accuracy and improved clarity. The actions of the Water Quality index were updated to be consistent with *Saskatchewan's Surface Water Quality Objectives*, which were changed in 2006.

The Department has little direct control over the results of this broad measure of water quality. Samples are collected by industries and municipalities in accordance with their permits, as well as by staff of Saskatchewan Environment and other agencies.

The assessment of all watersheds using the WQI is a long-term project. Saskatchewan Environment will be using the data collected from its primary monitoring stations on the major trans-boundary watersheds.

Objective 2 - Safe and sustainable drinking water and wastewater systems

High quality drinking water is important to protect human health and is essential in helping to ensure sustainable social and economic growth. Many industries in Saskatchewan depend on a reliable source of good quality water. Careful allocation of water use, attention to water use efficiency and proper waste management must be maintained to ensure ongoing productivity and further growth. According to surveys of Saskatchewan residents, drinking water quality is the most important environmental issue to the public.

Major cost drivers for this objective include: requirements for field inspections; the need to address water contamination incidents and associated testing costs; infrastructure-related demands and unexpected failures; the need to track and manage the application of emerging water quality related standards; and natural events (flood or drought) or incidents affecting source water quality. Communities without a good quality water supply and proper wastewater management are not able to attract businesses or, in some cases, residential development. Poor water quality can result in increased health care costs and increase costs for producing processed water. Other elements affecting success in achieving this objective relate to the timing of decisions by project proponents, construction delays and significant weather events affecting construction, all of which may impact progress on infrastructure improvements.

Progress on drinking water initiatives is reported through the government-wide *Safe Drinking Water Strategy*. Saskatchewan Environment leads implementation of this plan, which involves several government departments and agencies, and publicly reports on its implementation.

Saskatchewan Environment has seven output measures for this objective. This objective and the measures focus on ensuring and determining that: waterworks systems and operations provide safe and sustainable water; the drinking water regulatory system is clear and effective; high quality source waters are protected now and into the future, and consumers trust and value their drinking water and the operations which produce it.

Key Results

- Support ongoing achievement of and compliance with Operator Certification and Operator Continuing Education requirements. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - Completed. Saskatchewan Environment continued to directly support operator certification through initiation of training workshops, tracking and compliance follow-up for operator certification.

- Finalize and implement strategies to aid small communities to ensure the provision of safe water by affordable and publicly acceptable means. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - Completed. Saskatchewan Environment completed regulatory amendments aimed at reducing the cost of provision of safe drinking water without compromising safety.
  - Application of the hygienic waterworks requirements that alleviate many requirements for small waterworks while ensuring provision of safe water continued during 2006-07. As of March 31, 2007, 101 waterworks have received or applied for hygienic waterworks classification.
  - Continued to implement the regional/contract operator certification policy to ensure waterworks operations are under the direction of a certified operator.

- Inspect waterworks across the Province at a frequency of two inspections annually at each surface water and priority groundwater waterworks and one inspection at every other regulated waterworks. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Saskatchewan Environment continued to conduct waterworks inspections in accordance with the Department's inspection protocol and targets. A total of 832 (99 per cent) waterworks inspections were conducted.

- Complete annual sewage works inspections to identify which systems represent a risk to source water quality and to ensure sewage works meet operational and treatment requirements. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ A total of 547 wastewater works inspections (98 per cent) were completed.
  - ~ A total of 107 additional wastewater works operational permits were issued or renewed.

Measurement Results

Per cent of communities with human consumptive waterworks whose operators have received some level of certification

September 30, 2004	March 31, 2005	March 31, 2006	Annual Change
54.3%	96.8%	98.9%	↑ 2.1%

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Environmental Management System]

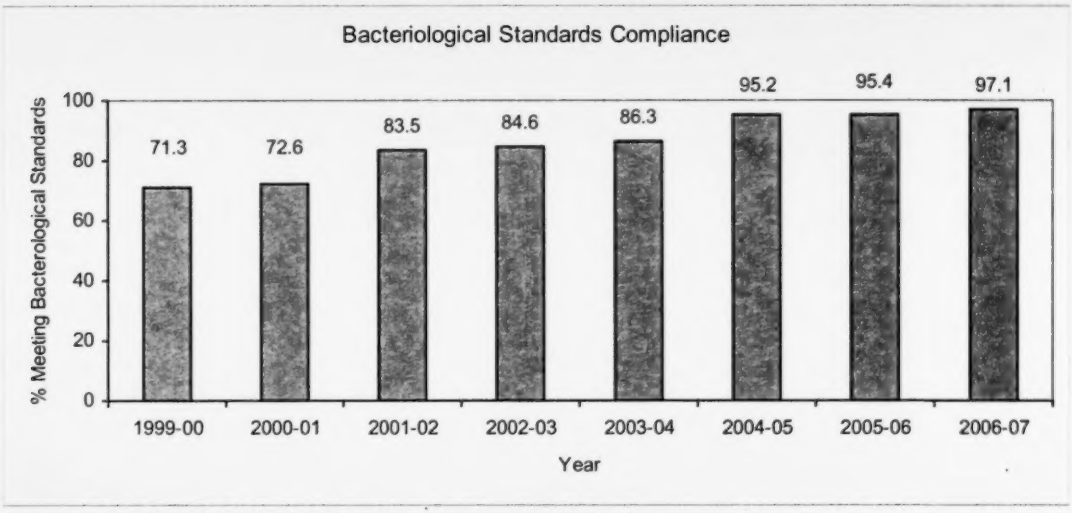
As of March 31, 2006, 98.9 per cent of communities with human consumptive waterworks have operators that have received some level of certification as compared to 96.8 per cent in March 2005. This is an increase of 2.1 per cent.

Approximately 99.96 per cent of the population served by a community (municipal) human consumptive waterworks have an operator that has received full certification or some level of training. Knowledgeable, certified operators help to ensure safe drinking water.

This measure illustrates the implementation of operator certification, and thereby the relative protection afforded to drinking water supplies. The performance measure is primarily controlled by the owner of the waterworks, but also requires cooperation from the waterworks operator(s). Acceptance and uptake of operator certification is key to ensuring the delivery of safe drinking water and therefore a reason this performance measure was selected. As a point of comparison, Alberta's (population 3.2 million) mandatory certification program took effect on January 1, 1983, and their program currently has 1,831 certified operators. Currently their certification examinations, certification applications and certificate renewals are free. Saskatchewan (population 0.9 million) has 1,304 certified operators, examinations cost about $95.00 and certification and renewal fees (every two years) are $130.00. All considered, Saskatchewan's certification program has progressed very well in comparison.

This performance measure quantifies the number of communities with waterworks operators that have been certified to some level and directly supports gauging progress towards the objective. The greater the number of communities with certified operators, the greater the safety of the water supply since operator knowledge will influence the quality of water produced. Saskatchewan Environment influences this measure by establishing regulations that require the certification of operators; however, it is up to each waterworks owner to ensure that they comply with the regulations.

Per cent of facilities that meet bacteriological guidelines 90 per cent of the time



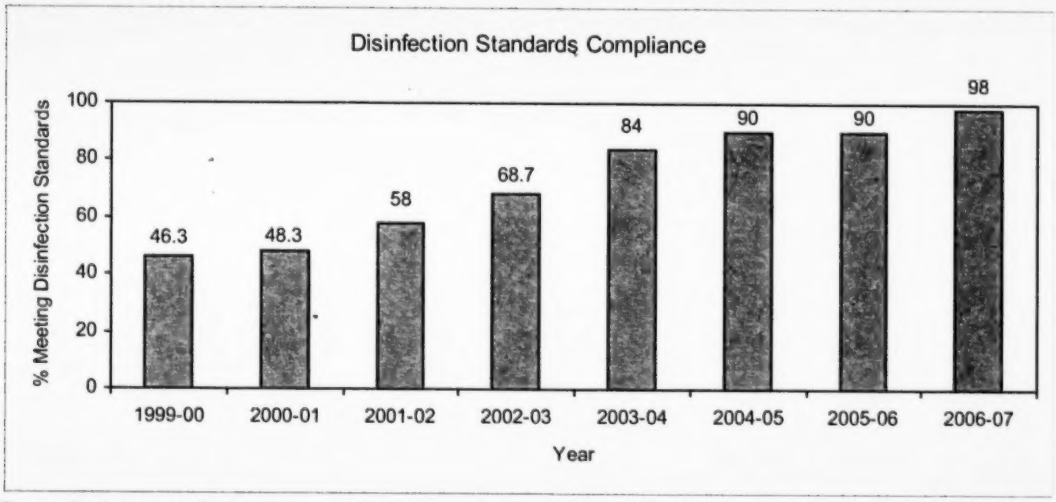
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Environmental Management System]

There has been a steady increase in compliance with bacteriological water quality standards (90 per cent of the time) over the past four fiscal years with a 9.1 per cent increase in compliance from 86.3 for 2003-04 to 95.2 per cent for the 2004-05 fiscal year to 95.4 per cent for the 2005-06 fiscal year and to 97.1 per cent in 2006-07. Increases in bacteriological compliance also match well with reductions in the number of Precautionary Drinking Water Advisories (PDWA) and Emergency Boil Water Orders (EBWO) issued in 2006-07 (one PDWA and two EBWOs). The steady increase in compliance with standards is the result of increased inspection and follow-up on water quality sampling results by Saskatchewan Environment staff as well as increased attention to water treatment and monitoring by waterworks owners and operators.

The bacteriological quality of drinking water is important as contamination of this type can result in significant illness within a short period of time. Compliance with bacteriological water quality standards was selected as a reportable performance measure since it provides a good indication of drinking water quality, which is important to consumers.

The performance measure is primarily controlled by the owner of the waterworks, but also requires cooperation from the waterworks operator(s) in achieving bacteriological water quality compliance. Ongoing inspection and interaction with waterworks owners and operators is planned to sustain good performance in achieving water that is safe from bacteriological threats.

Per cent of waterworks (regulated by Saskatchewan Environment) that meet disinfection requirements 90 per cent of the time



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Environmental Management System]

There has been a significant increase in compliance with the disinfection standards over the past four fiscal years with a 6.1 per cent increase in compliance from 84 per cent in 2003-04 to 90.2 per cent in 2004-05 to 90.1 per cent in 2005-06 and to 98.2 per cent in 2006-07. The increase in compliance with the disinfection standards can be directly attributed to an increased field presence by Saskatchewan Environment inspection staff and a renewed awareness by waterworks owners and operators of the regulatory requirements.

Proper disinfection of drinking water is one of the most important ways to ensure safe drinking water and prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases. Compliance with chlorine residual requirements was selected as a reportable performance measure since it provides a good indication of drinking water protection, which is important to consumers. The performance measure is primarily controlled by the owner of the waterworks, but also requires cooperation from the waterworks operator(s) in achieving disinfection standards compliance. Ongoing inspection and interaction with waterworks owners and operators is planned to sustain good performance in achieving water that is safe from bacteriological threats and meets disinfection standards.

Number of sewage effluent discharges that represent a risk to source waters

March 2004	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	Annual Change
93	93	85	116*	↑ 31**

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Environmental Management System]

*The Department has initiated preventative and compliance actions to resolve problems or advance progress at 18 sewage works in the Province since 2004-05.

** Performance measure evaluates likely compliance with pending Canada-wide Standards for Municipal Wastewater Effluents as of 2006-07.

As of March 31, 2007, there were approximately 116 wastewater systems that have been identified as having discharge that may reach a surface water body under certain conditions and may require compliance with pending Canada-wide Standards for municipal wastewater effluent (MWWE). Saskatchewan Environment has increased preventative and compliance actions to resolve problems or advance progress at 18 sewage works in the Province since 2004-05 and Department staff on an annual basis reviews the quality of effluent from each regulated works. Reduction of ammonia and chlorine residual emissions within treated wastewater effluent, sewage works capacity or other treatment capability issues typically involve significant planning, investment and construction. Therefore, it can be expected that reductions in the number of works that represent a risk to source waters will be a time consuming process.

The number of sewage effluent discharges that represent a risk to source waters is a direct indication of the potential for source water contamination due to poor wastewater treatment. The performance measure now incorporates the need for future possible compliance with MWWE standards. This measure was selected as a performance measure since it is the most direct measure of the number of potential contamination point sources. Further work to resolve problematic wastewater systems is planned for 2007-08 beyond.

Per cent of survey respondents indicating that they are willing to pay more for their drinking water

December 2001	May 2003	March 2005	March 2006	May 2007	Change
61%	61.9%	68%	70.8%	67.8%	↓ 3.0%

[Source: Government of Saskatchewan Omnibus Polling Results – May 2007]

Based on a May 2007 omnibus poll conducted by the Government of Saskatchewan, 67.8 per cent of people polled are willing to pay more to improve their drinking water (strongly agree or agree). This value is three per cent less than the previous poll in March 2006 and is 6.8 per cent greater than the December 2001 poll before implementation of the strategy. The polling results continue to show ongoing public recognition of the value of water or willingness to pay for it, although not quite as strong as in past cases. The polling results may be related to the high level of confidence in safety of drinking water, and may also be influenced by ready access to information on drinking water quality. How consumers value quality water and their willingness to pay for it is an indication of their understanding of the importance of safe drinking water and the true cost to produce it.

Per cent of survey respondents indicating that they are very or somewhat confident in the quality of their tap water

December 2001	May 2003	March 2005	March 2006	May 2007	Change
72%	87%	86%	87.3%	82.6%	↓ 4.7%

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment Polling Results – March 2006]

Based on a May 2007 omnibus poll conducted by the Government of Saskatchewan, 82.6 per cent of people polled strongly agreed or agreed they are confident in the safety of their own drinking water. Although still at a high level of confidence these polling results represent a decrease of 4.7 per cent from March 2006 while remaining 10.6 per cent greater than December 2001 when 72 per cent of people surveyed were very or somewhat confident in the quality of their tap water. Actions initiated under the Safe Drinking Water Strategy such as consumer education efforts, waterworks inspections, implementation of water quality standards, water workshops and consumer notification help build confidence in the safety of drinking water at a relatively high level in excess of 80 per cent. Ongoing attention to the elements of the strategy will help to maintain the high level of public confidence in safety of drinking water in the future. This measure is important as it provides an indication of how efforts to ensure safe drinking water are progressing.

Number of system owners that publicly release water quality results

March 2002	March 2003	March 2004	March 2005	March 2006	March 2007	Annual Change
3	118	359	508	494	511	↑ 17

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Environmental Management System]

As of March 31, 2007, 511 of waterworks owners publicly released water quality results to the consumers that they serve. This value represents a slight increase since the 2005-06 fiscal year. Notification of consumers is required on an annual basis for waterworks regulated by Saskatchewan Environment. Saskatchewan Environment will continue to pursue further progress on attainment of public reporting requirements during 2007-08 and beyond. The number of system owners that publicly release water quality results is a good way to determine if consumers have direct meaningful access to information about the quality of their water.

Objective 3 - Reduced Risks to the Health of People and the Environment from Air Quality

Clean air is essential for humans and most other life forms. Due to the low provincial population and moderate level of industrial activity, the air quality in Saskatchewan is generally good. Smog is rare, but acid precipitation from industry in Alberta is a potential problem, especially for parts of northern Saskatchewan. Airborne particulates, such as blowing dust and smoke from forest or stubble fires cause the most noticeable air pollution concern. Other more localized issues are associated with intensive livestock operations, gas wells, small manufacturing and processing plant emissions. There is also concern about the increasing levels of provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for administering The Clean Air Act, which regulates most major air quality emissions in the Province. The Department's strategy to manage these issues is to maintain standards and guidelines, promote pollution controls and reductions, respond to emerging risks and threats, regulate emissions from large point sources such as utilities, industrial sites and mining operations and monitor and assess air quality. Efforts are also focussed on reducing GHG emissions from electricity production through greater use of green energy sources such as wind, natural gas and ethanol in gasoline. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to be more energy conscious and efficient. Good progress was made during the year in these program areas.

Key factors that can impact the cost of protecting air quality include economic growth in Saskatchewan, neighbouring provinces and states that can result in increased trans-boundary drift of air pollutants, and weather and drought conditions that can result in increased forest fire activity and crop residue burning, both of which contribute to air-borne particulates. Increased emissions from the projected growth in the Alberta Oil Sands have the potential to significantly impact the long-term economic and cultural well-being of northern residents.

Key Results

- Develop a regional air quality monitoring network in southeast Saskatchewan to support a pilot airshed association. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. There were 28 passive monitors installed and now operating in the airshed zone. Southeast Saskatchewan Airshed Association (SESAA) submitted the first quarterly passive air monitoring report to the Board. The work of SESAA was presented at two luncheons in Regina and Saskatoon in February 2007. For more information go to: www.sesaa.ca

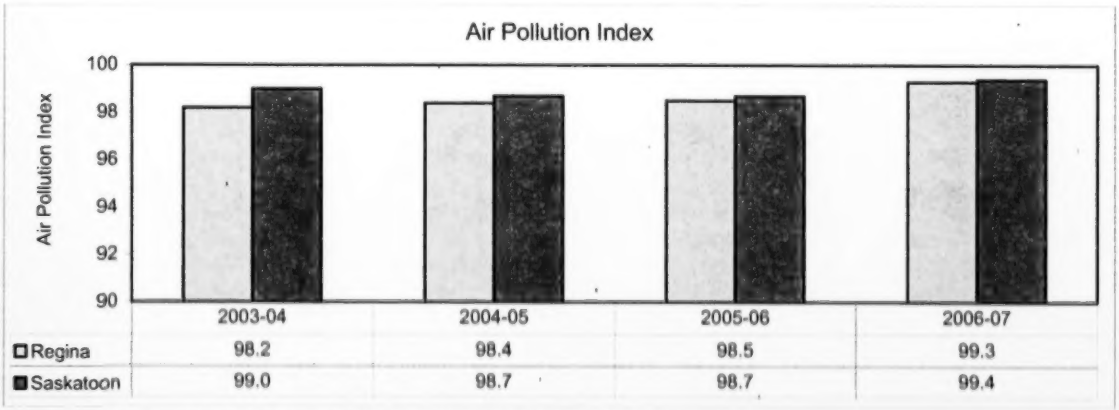
- Establish a northern air quality monitoring program in response to the expansion of the Alberta Oil Sands. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Mobile air lab and equipment was acquired and a plan for 2007 acid deposition monitoring program is well underway.

- Implement a plan to improve administration of the Department's Air Quality Management Program. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Limited progress has been made. Established a process to track permit expiry dates and notify permit holders in advance of the expiration date of their permit.

Measurement Results

Per cent of time the rating from the Air Pollution Index is good to excellent in Regina and Saskatoon (based on an annual average)

The Air Pollution Index rate for Regina and Saskatoon were good to excellent 99.3 per cent and 99.4 per cent of the time respectively.



	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Regina	98.2	98.4	98.5	99.3
Saskatoon	99.0	98.7	98.7	99.4

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment - Environmental Protection Branch]

The air pollution index is used to monitor long-term trends in air quality. The index is a composite of data about measurements of chemicals and particulates in the air. Maintaining urban air quality is an important part of meeting this objective. Saskatchewan Environment has established monitoring stations in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Swift Current.

This measure is only an indicator of the impact of air quality on health as it measures air quality at a point source, not for the overall population. Over the longer-term, Saskatchewan Environment will also need to better define rural air quality impacts. The Department has little direct control over the results of this broad measure of air quality.

Objective 4 - Reduced Risks to People and the Environment from Contaminated Land

Clean land is essential for human health and safe production of food. A range of human activities affects the quality of land and soil, and therefore, the Department's performance results and program costs. The "polluter pays" principle helps limit Government liabilities. Discovery of new, seriously contaminated sites where no responsible party can be found, or demand for new recycling initiatives, could affect future

program costs. Most of the major land use issues have been identified and steps are being taken to address them; better agricultural and forest management practices are being adopted, contaminated sites and abandoned mines are being cleaned up, and the mining and petroleum industries are closely regulated to ensure they leave no long-term environmental effects. Waste management strategies are being developed and implemented, such as regional landfills and a variety of recycling initiatives.

Saskatchewan Environment's strategy to address this objective is to continue programs that set standards and guidelines, monitor and assess soil quality and waste management practices, promote waste reduction and recycling initiatives, respond to risks and threats, and regulate disposal from large point sources, such as municipalities, utilities, large industrial emitters and mining operations.

Saskatchewan Environment uses two output measures that report on the per cent of mines with financial assurances and the per cent of mines with reclamation and decommissioning plans. The Department will continue to look for insightful measures of performance for this objective.

Key Results

- Complete a provincial strategy for the management of solid municipal waste. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. A document on policy direction, vision, goals and key actions was finalized. This work is ongoing and will be carried over to 2007-08.

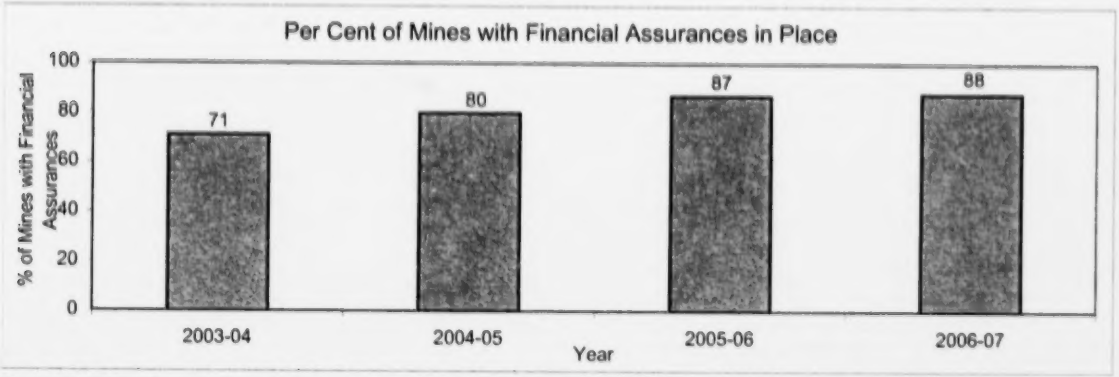
- Continue to assess remedial requirements for abandoned mines. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Strategy completed. Work and inspections at various sites completed. Funding options for abandoned non-uranium mines program continues to be investigated.

- Oversee clean-up of priority contaminated sites. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Plans for 2006-07 were completed. Remedial work at various sites completed. This work will carry over to 2007-08.

Measurement Results

Per cent of mines with financial assurances in place

In 2006-07 the per cent of mines with financial assurances increased to 88 per cent from 87 per cent in 2005-06.



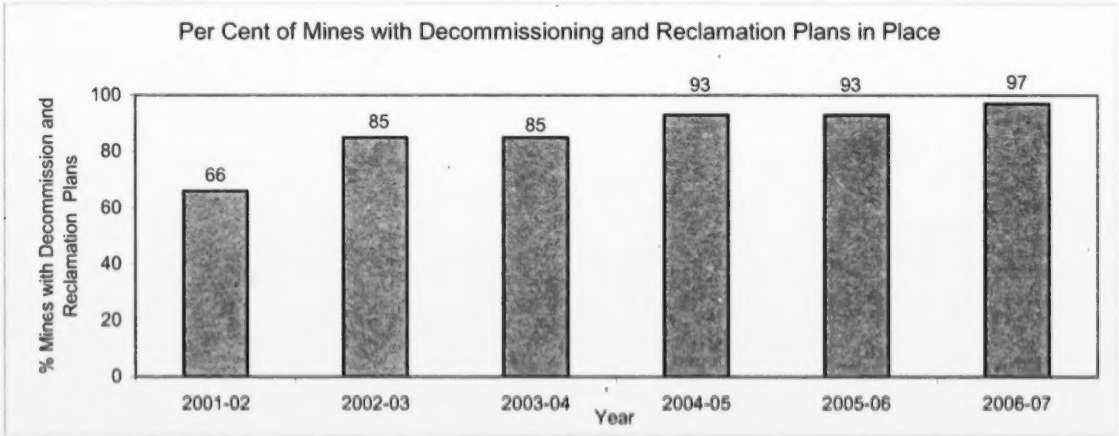
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data and mine company annual reports]

Reclamation of mine sites can have positive impacts to the clean land objective directly by returning the site to its original natural state. Mining companies are required to have decommissioning plans and financial assurances in place to ensure that they do not place a burden on Saskatchewan taxpayers should they fail to meet their decommissioning and reclamation obligations. The Department directly regulates the environmental aspects of mining operations and therefore directly influences measure results.

Financial assurances are critical to be able to mitigate the impact of contamination on land at the source of these operations. This measure is not an indication of risk but an indictor of the ability to mitigate risk.

Per cent of mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans in place

Per cent of mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans in place has increased to 97 per cent from 93 per cent in 2006-07



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data and mine company annual reports]

Decommissioning and reclamation plans put in place by mining companies ensure environmental protection at the end of the operation's life. The Department directly regulates the environmental aspects of mining operations and therefore has a direct influence over the measurement results. This is a good measure of the mining industry's commitment to environmental stewardship.

Decommissioning and reclamation plans are critical for appropriate mitigating actions to be taken, ensuring land is returned to its original state. Again, this measure is not an indication of risk but an indicator of the ability to mitigate risk.

Objective 5 - Healthy Ecosystems that Support Native Biological Diversity are Stable and Capable of Self-Repair

Ecosystem-based management is an approach that involves a holistic "systems" perspective to managing resources. Biodiversity is a term used that refers to the variety of species and the ecosystems they are a part of. Biodiversity is essential for preserving the health and diversity of living things that form the web of life on earth, including human life. Loss of ecological health can mean a loss of the system's ability to self-repair and a cycle of continuing deterioration. Such deterioration can reduce, or in some cases eliminate, the goods and services that an ecosystem provides, such as water purification or flood control, pest control, medicinal plants and food, such as fish. Replacement of these services or restoration of the

ecosystem is often very costly and in the worst cases, the service or goods may be lost from an area entirely. Due to human activity, some ecosystems and specific fauna and flora within them are at risk or have already been lost. It is important that human activities do not further reduce ecosystem health. Adopting an ecosystem-based approach to resource management and environmental protection will help to ensure ecological sustainability.

Key factors that have an impact on measurement results include price fluctuations in resource and agricultural commodities, and public environmental concerns. Typically, when resource and agriculture sectors are experiencing higher activity there is increased demand to use natural landscape and wetland areas. As a result, environmental lobby groups apply pressure to increase the pace of landscape planning and protection. This, in turn, can influence program costs.

Key programming includes the development of ecosystem management policies, enhancement of scientific information and databases through monitoring and surveys, and resource stewardship programs and plans, such as the Biodiversity Action Plan, Representative Areas Network (RAN) and Species at Risk. During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment maintained its programming contributing to this objective.

Saskatchewan Environment now has two output measures for this objective. The measure of the number of hectares in RAN is important because this land is protected for the future and it also serves as a benchmark to monitor changes across the broader landscape. This year the Department has broadened its measures for this objective to include an indicator of ecosystem health. The per cent of native prairie remaining in the Prairie Ecozone is a reflection of the ability of that ecosystem to sustain its native flora and fauna, and an indicator of long term health of the ecozone.

Key Results

- Report on progress toward implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan and determine further actions needed to achieve planned outcomes. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Biodiversity Action Plan progress report has been published, posted on the internet, and copies distributed to key stakeholders. www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem

- Work to designate and manage additional protected areas that are representative of the Province's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Progress made on assessment of sites and public consultations. This action will carry over to 2007-08.

- Ensure renewal of harvested areas within the provincial forests. Plant approximately 2.0 million trees in 2006-07. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Total trees planted for the year is 2,126,168 by the government renewal program.

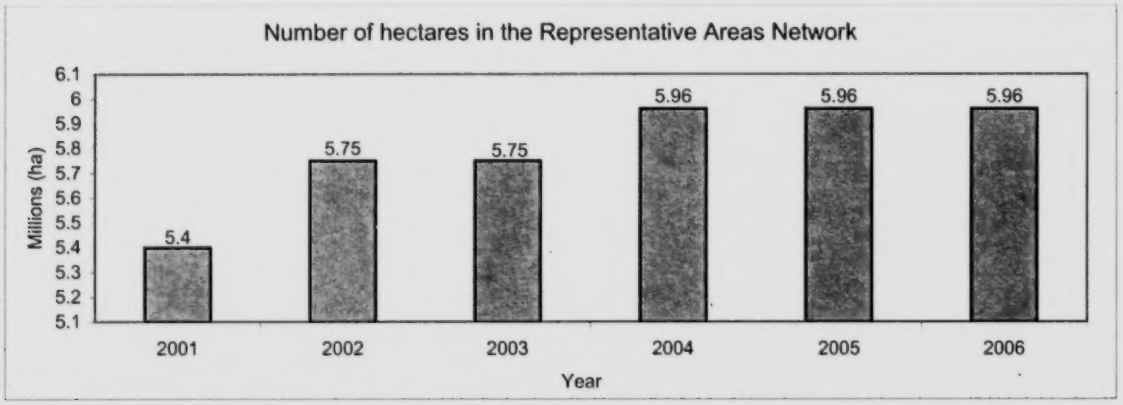
- Under the framework of the National Chronic Wasting Disease Control Strategy, implement Saskatchewan's Chronic Wasting Disease Control Program. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Program has been implemented. Provincial chronic wasting disease sampling and analysis completed and final year-end report prepared. www.se.gov.sk.ca/fishwild/CWD_info.htm

- Manage environmental issues associated with continued growth of the oil, natural gas and hard-rock mineral industries in Saskatchewan. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. The number of mineral exploration programs and oil/natural gas proposals that are submitted for review continues to climb.
  - ~ Staffing of oil and gas/mineral positions has been completed.
  - ~ Workshops held on the permitting process.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares in the Representative Areas Network

There were 5.96 million hectares of land in the Representative Areas Network in 2006-07.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment - Resource Stewardship Branch]

Although there have been no new representative area designations added this year, progress has continued to be made on a number of proposed sites identified through forest land use planning processes.

Adequate amount and distribution of natural/native habitats under the RAN ensures that terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems persist into the future and serve as a benchmark against which we can monitor the effectiveness of environmental stewardship across the broader landscape.

Natural landscapes with representative fauna and flora unique to a given natural ecoregion are selected by the Department for designation as a representative ecological site for inclusion in the RAN. All contributing lands are counted, including those of government and non-government partners. The RAN program is striving to ensure an adequate percentage of representation of each natural ecoregion in the Province.

Saskatchewan Environment has direct site designation and management influence over this measure. However, the need to consult with local interests may result in a slower rate of progress. The measure of the number of hectares in the RAN is an indicator of the Province's commitment to supporting native biological diversity but does not show the current ability of the ecosystem to repair itself.

Per cent of native prairie remaining in the Prairie Ecozone

21.5 per cent
[Source: Hammermeister, Gauthier, and McGovern Report, 2001]

The Prairie Ecozone is the greatest "at risk" ecozone within the Province. The amount of native prairie remaining uncultivated is a reflection of the ability of that ecosystem to sustain its native flora and fauna. The measure is an indicator of long-term health.

As landscape changes very slowly over time, it is expected that this number will change periodically over a number of years. We do not expect any significant year-to-year change. It is anticipated that measurement of native prairie remaining will only be taken every five to ten years.

Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over this measure through programs that encourage conservation of native prairie land, such as the Prairie Conservation Action Plan, and through the Department's support of environmental farm planning. This includes partnership agreements that the Department enters into with "not-for-profit" organizations such as the Nature Conservancy, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation and Ducks Unlimited that allow for the establishment of conservation easements and other conservation lands. The Department does not have direct control over decisions regarding cultivation of native land or conversion for other purposes. However, the Department also exerts influence over land use throughout the Province by its involvement in land use planning.

Saskatchewan Environment will continue to improve its measures for healthy ecosystems over time by broadening the perspective into the health of our ecosystems. Better performance measures may be developed over time to better reflect the impact of human activity on the prairie landscape.

Goal 2 - People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

Objective 1 - Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk

The expanding uses of the forest, the increasing population of northern Saskatchewan and the deterioration of fire management infrastructure are placing unprecedented challenges on the Province's fire management program. As predicted climate warming occurs, additional pressures for fire protection over the long-term can be expected. However, newly realized ecological benefits of fire challenge traditional views, that all fires must be suppressed. Allowing fires to burn creates a natural vegetation mosaic and maintains the diversity of natural habitats. Fires help remove the build up of natural litter in the forest, reducing the risk of large, intense and costly fires. Fire also assists in moderating insect and disease infestations. Prescribed fires are used in selected provincial parks as part of vegetation management. In the broader forest landscape, the challenge is to find the proper balance between fire suppression to protect values at risk and the management of fire to maintain healthy and diverse ecosystems.

Protection of human life and communities from wildfires will continue to be the program's top priority. Effective fire protection includes prevention, detection, initial attack, and sustained action. A number of support requirements are essential for fire suppression operations, including training, equipment and fuel procurement, air tankers, and related infrastructure. Saskatchewan Environment must seek to manage risks where capital and operating expenditures are considerable. During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment made good progress in implementing its new fire strategy. Protection strategies reflected the values being threatened and the potential beneficial aspects of each fire. Decisions balanced the risk fire poses to all values with the capability to provide protection in a given situation.

Saskatchewan Environment has two output measures for this objective that provide a good indication of how well the program is performing in the full response zone. As the Department gains experience with its reclassified zones, it will develop measures of program performance in both the modified and the observation zones.

Key Results

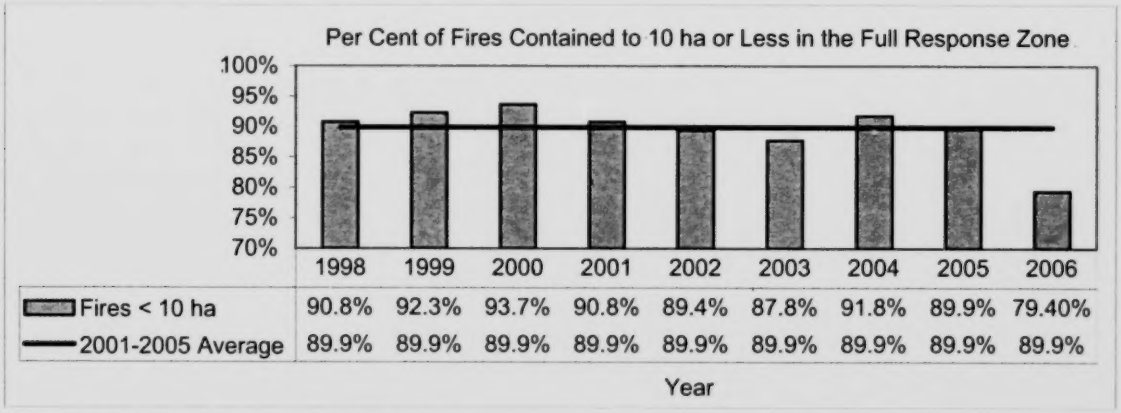
- Aerial fleet renewal - complete delivery of the next two Convair 580A's into fleet operations and begin work on a five-year modernization program for four of the six Canadair water bombing aircraft. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Renewal of the fire-fighting aircraft fleet is progressing on target.

- Work to re-establish the fire observation tower network by erecting three new towers in 2006. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Five fire towers have been constructed and final inspections completed.

Measurement Results

Per cent of fires in the full response zone contained to 10 hectares or less

For the 2006 fire season, 270 of the 340 fires in the full response zone were contained to a size of 10 hectares or less. This translates to a 79.4 per cent containment rate. Although this containment rate falls short of the five year average by nearly 10 per cent, the overall number of fires is down. The decrease in the percentage of fires contained to less than 10 hectares is the result of a large number of fires burning at the same time over a three week period. Many of these fire starts threatened communities, putting a strain on the Department's resources.



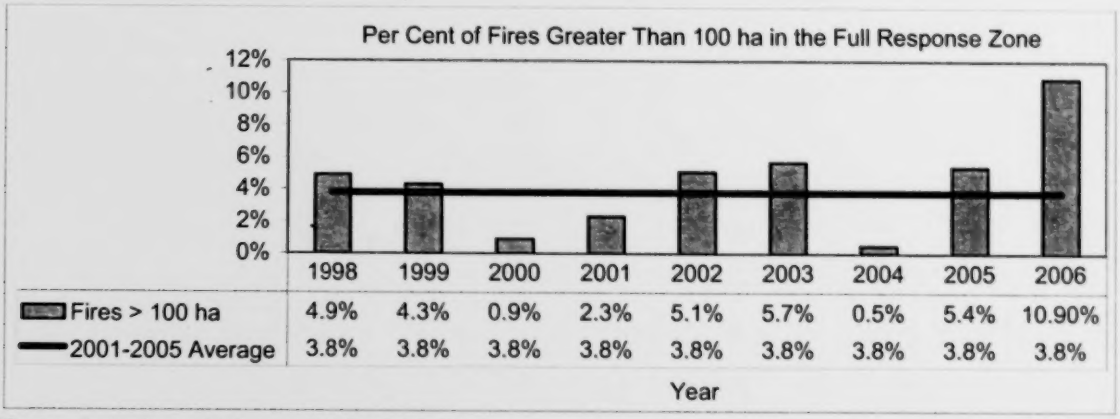
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

The percentage of contained fires is a measure of how well the pre-planning, detection and initial attack components of the program are working. Containing fires to smaller sizes will minimize the number of communities threatened by fire, as well as reduce the area burned and the costs associated with fire suppression. Saskatchewan Environment's performance results and operating costs depend on a number of factors: analysis of the landscape and its vulnerability to fire starts (e.g., moisture levels, wind speed and direction, fuel type); effective planning to pre-position resources in areas where fire might be expected; ease of access to the location of the fire; topography of fire location; early detection of fires; rapid/effective initial attack and quick reliable support from aircraft.

This measure is a good indicator of risk to people, resources and property value because fires contained to 10 hectares or less can be extinguished efficiently by our resources.

Per cent of escaped fires in the full response zone that are larger than 100 hectares

In 2006, 10.9 per cent or 37 of the 340 of the escaped fires in the full response zone (communities and commercial timber) exceeded 100 hectares. The increase in the percentage of fires more than 100 hectares is the result of a large number of fires burning at the same time over a three week period. Many of these fire starts threatened communities, putting a serious strain on the Department's resources.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

Escaped fires are an unavoidable occurrence in forest fire programs. Uncontrollable circumstances, such as: poor detection conditions; multiple fire starts; dry, windy burning conditions; the volatility of the fuel; proximity to resources to allow for successful initial attack; topography; and the time of year can all combine to create conditions that allow fires to grow beyond 100 hectares. Resources needed to suppress fires escalate as the fire size grows, so costs also grow quickly.

Again, this measure is a good indicator of risk because as fires exceed 100 hectares they become a greater risk to people, resources and property values.

Objective 2 - Increased Capacity of Individuals, Communities, Industries and Others to Take Responsibility for Reducing Fire Hazards and Wildfires

Wildland fires pose a threat to people, property and natural resources. Residents, communities and businesses need to take precautionary actions to protect their interests. Reducing the risk of wildland fire is a key priority for the provincial fire management program.

The challenge of current programming is to increase co-operation and training among fire management agencies and foster a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of municipal fire management jurisdictions in the Province. Other specific initiatives are focussed on vegetation management in provincial parks and on Crown lands, and on educating and encouraging individuals, businesses, communities, cottagers and visitors to the North to prevent wildland fires and reduce wildfire risks. Saskatchewan Environment continued good progress in reducing human-caused fires over 2006-07 and is also working with communities to encourage improved safeguards.

Saskatchewan Environment now has one measure for this objective. The measure focuses on individuals, while the objective includes individuals, communities and industry. The Department is working to broaden its measures for this objective to provide insight on performance in relation to

communities and industry; for example, the Department is now working on a measure of communities with safeguards in place.

Key Results

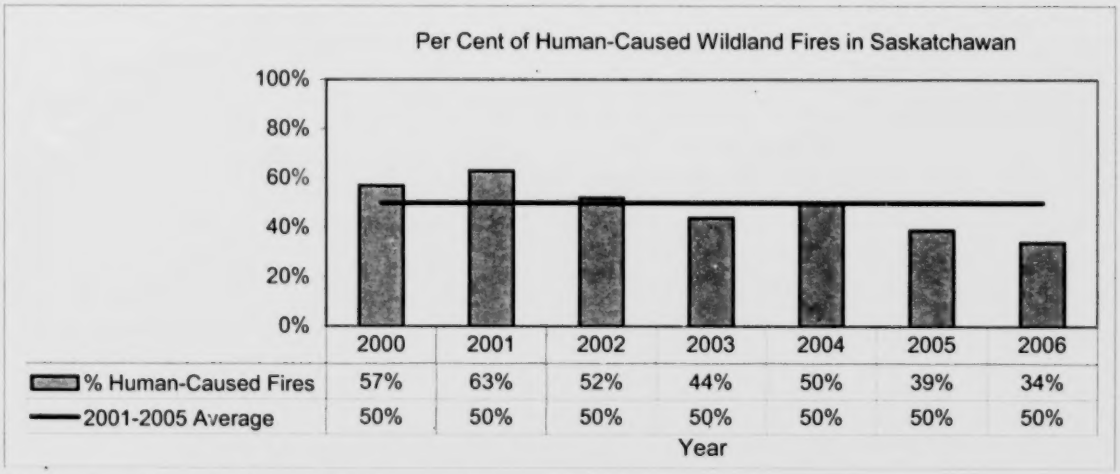
- Deliver a high profile public awareness campaign with the objectives of: reducing human-caused fires, having those stakeholders that are active in the forest take responsibility to avoid or mitigate the risk from fires, and building understanding of changes to wildfire management strategies. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Annual public awareness advertising campaign undertaken. Sixty-four per cent of Saskatchewan residents recall seeing or hearing the fire awareness message "Be prepared... Don't let your fire go wild."

- Act as a catalyst for risk mitigation work with northern communities by building understanding of wildfire risk and encouraging communities to take ownership of actions to reduce risks. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. A manual was completed on how communities can manage their wildfire risk. www.se.gov.sk.ca/fire
  - ~ Joint project with the Saskatchewan Forestry Centre funded by the Forest Development fund resulted in the completion of a community wildfire prevention documentary. Copies of the documentary were distributed to Saskatchewan schools and libraries.
  - ~ The target to communicate with 100 per cent of the communities will carry over to 2007-08.

Measurement Results

Percentage of human-caused wildland fires

Of the 501 fire starts in the entire Province in 2006, 34 per cent were human-caused fires. The five-year average for human-caused starts is 50 per cent.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

The wildland fire prevention education and awareness campaign is designed to reduce the percentage of human-caused wildland fires by encouraging individuals to recognize their responsibility for containing the fires they start, by providing individuals with the information they need to be aware of the risks of starting

a wildfire, and to use fire safely. Increasing this awareness is intended to reduce the percentage of human-caused fires, which typically occur closer to communities and resort properties where more people are located. The branch has also begun to focus more effort on educating northern communities leading to better understanding of the impacts of human-caused wildfire. The Department has indirect influence over this measure.

This measure does not reflect the increased capacity of individuals and organizations to take responsibility for the reduction of fire hazards. It is an indicator of the impact of human-caused fires and the Department's capacity to deliver this program.

The Department is focussing on developing measures that are better indicators of community commitment and capacity to take responsibility for wildfire prevention and suppression.

For additional information on Saskatchewan Environment's Fire Management Program see: www.se.gov.sk.ca/fire/

Goal 3 - Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

Objective 1 - Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources

Saskatchewan Environment ensures an equitable allocation of land and resources to competing interests that satisfy environmental, social and economic needs. Conflict over resource use can impinge upon existing uses, delay or stop potential developments, or negatively impact the quantity or quality of natural renewable resources. Saskatchewan Environment's approach to managing these issues and the risks associated with them is to monitor health and abundance of the resources, set standards and guidelines for sustainable use, issue land disposition and resource allocations, promote and monitor compliance with conditions, respond to specific risks and threats, improve the health and abundance of the resources, and identify new economic opportunities for sustainable use.

Integrated land use planning is one of the key tools the Department uses to assist in maintaining ecosystem health and determining an equitable allocation of resources among competing users within a designated geographic area. The process provides the opportunity for all impacted resource users to be involved in developing a land use and resource management plan for large or small areas. The planning process and the subsequent implementation of the plans consider sustainability over the long-term. Over the past 10 years, six plans have been completed encompassing more than seven million hectares. There are currently seven additional plans in progress, encompassing another seven million hectares.

A key factor that impacts performance results, and, to some extent program costs, is supply and demand for commodities, which in turn drives research, exploration and development activity in the resource sector. Integrated land use planning is often used to keep a balanced perspective among sustainable economic development, environmental, and cultural and traditional use concerns. Consultation and communication processes inherent in integrated land use plans are key factors in stakeholder acceptance of allocation of natural renewable resources. During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment maintained its programs and services targeted at this objective and made progress in development of a new fish management strategy and implementation of the Great Sand Hills Regional Environmental Study.

This year Saskatchewan Environment has added one output measure for this objective. The per cent of annual allowable cut harvested is meant to reflect sustainable harvest activity in the forest sector. The Department is working on developing a broader range of measures for the different types of resource allocation.

Key Results

- Develop a strategic policy framework for Crown resource land management and allocation that supports Government direction and addresses changing stakeholder interests. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. A Crown land management issues paper was drafted and submitted for review and consideration. A need for more comprehensive interdepartmental review/development of options was identified.

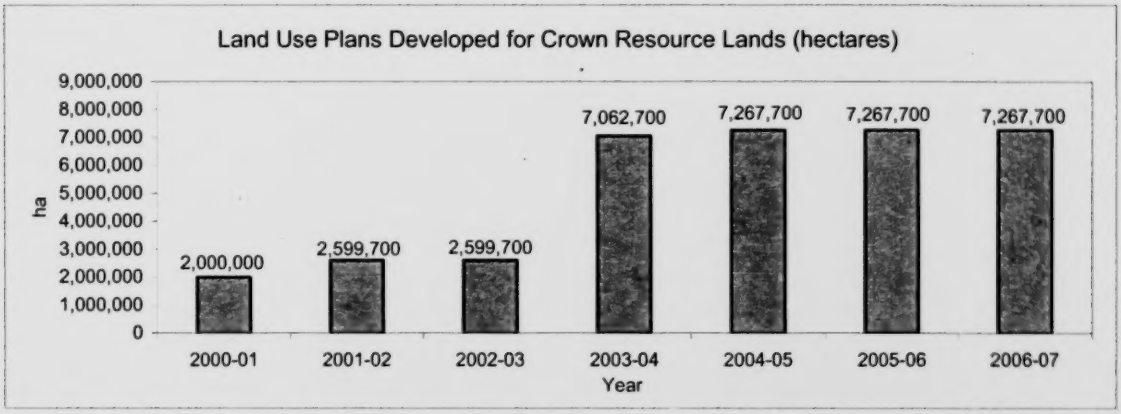
- Complete two forest land use plans in 2006-07 as part of planning processes that result in the preparation, finalization and implementation of integrated land use plans to guide protection, management and allocation of Crown resource lands in the Province. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. A draft North Central Integrated Forest Land Use Plan and Nisbet Integrated Forest Land Use Plan have been completed. The Fort a la Corne Plan was delayed. Plans that have been initiated will be completed in 2007-08.

- Complete baseline assessment for the Great Sand Hills Regional Environmental Study and submit recommendations. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Report has been finalized and recommendations submitted.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares of Crown land under Integrated Land Use Plans (ILUP)

The number of hectares of Crown land under integrated land use plans has remained at 7,267,700 hectares. As new land use plans are completed this number will increase.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment - Resource Stewardship Branch]

Integrated land use planning is an ecosystem-based tool that links the environment, the community and the economy in ways that help ensure the sustainability of resources. The unification of the varied interests through the ILUP process requires time, commitment, a high level of participation and financial resources. Any influences that adversely affect any of these four key components will result in at least a degree of loss of control or influence over the measure.

This measure is a good reflection of the ability of the Department to ensure an equitable allocation of resources. Integrated land use plans are one of the foundations for long-term sustainable land use in the Province.

Per cent of annual allowable cut harvested

2004-05	2005-06	Change
67%	64%	↓ 3%

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Forest Service Branch]
Note: The data has a lag time of one year.

In 2005-06 there was 64 per cent of the allowable cut harvested. This is a decrease of three per cent from 2004-05. Factors contributing to the decrease in the amount harvested were the Weyerhaeuser pulp and paper mill closure and a general slowing of the forest products market.

This measure is a good reflection of effective and efficient allocation of natural resources because it reflects industry access to the resources they need to operate. Saskatchewan Environment establishes the maximum annual allowable cut and industry decides what percentage of that they will actually harvest based on market demand, prices and other similar factors. Saskatchewan Environment maintains information for this measure. There is a one year time lag on this data.

The percentage of annual allowable cut harvested reflects the effectiveness of the balance between environmental protection and economic development. The annual allowable cut is determined by a variety of environmental factors. The Department has significant influence over this measure because the Department determines the annual maximum allowable cut. However, individual companies determine the percentage of the allowable cut they will actually harvest based on a number of uncontrollable factors including demand and available prices for forest sector products.

Objective 2 - Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands

Crown lands and provincial parks are public assets administered by Saskatchewan Environment for public use and enjoyment. These areas provide economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits to the Province. Saskatchewan Environment's park programs maintain park landscapes and buildings to promote a high-quality visitor experience within a natural setting, set standards and policies for sustainable use and enjoyment of parks, monitor and enforce policies essential to a safe and enjoyable park experience, promote tourism and business development opportunities within parks and in nearby communities and manage overlapping demands from competing park users. The Department also leases and permits the sale and use of Crown land and resources, such as expanding the access to cottage opportunities in parks and on resource Crown lands across the Province.

The Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF) is utilized to manage annual operating budgets for provincial parks. Three-year averages are used to establish annual revenue projections and set the operating budgets for each park location. Weather plays the largest role in determining the degree of success and financial stability of the park program because of its impact on annual park visitation. During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment made progress towards this objective, and worked to establish future direction through creation of a plan for future direction of parks.

Saskatchewan Environment has two measures for this objective, one output and one quality (satisfaction) measure. While this objective is focussed on both park and Crown resource lands, data sources for measures related to Crown resource lands are currently not available.

Key Results

- Finalize and begin to implement a ten-year Parks Legacy Plan including greening of our parks, co-ordinated marketing with tourism agencies and other parks, and refurbishment of core park facilities. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Plan was completed with implementation to follow.

- Promote and host provincial parks' 75th anniversary celebrations. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Programs and celebrations were well received by park visitors with near record park visitations.

- Reassess cottage development programming in Saskatchewan, in consultation with First Nations, provincial park cottagers, development proponents and other interest groups. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Cottage development programming was reassessed. Proposals for Cowan and Tobin Lakes are being reviewed.

- Apply improved green technology to a number of capital projects in the provincial parks. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Great progress was made on applying green technology to capital projects. Some examples are: conversion to low flush toilets in numerous parks; conversion of lights in facilities to more energy efficient types; and installation of solar powered water systems.

- Provide funds for urban parks in North Battleford and Weyburn. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Agreements completed and funds provided to North Battleford and Weyburn.

Measurement Results

Number of provincial park visitations

There were 2,537,684 visits recorded at provincial parks in 2006 from the May long weekend to Labour Day. This was an increase just over eight per cent from 2005. Factors contributing to increased use were a warmer summer, as well as many park-based 75th anniversary celebrations.

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment Summer Visitation and Outdoor Recreation Statistical Report]

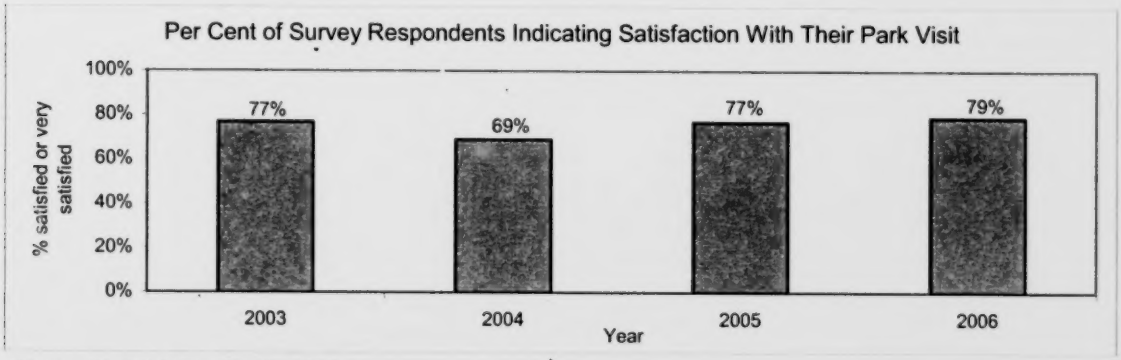
The number of visitations to provincial parks is a measure of park access and popularity. Tracking this number helps Saskatchewan Environment evaluate the success of its park policies and related programs. Other than the weather conditions influencing park visits, Saskatchewan Environment has direct influence

on the demand for provincial park use through marketing, park fees and recreation opportunities provided.

This measure is a good indictor of the usage of the provincial parks but does not necessarily reflect a sustainable use of these facilities.

Per cent of survey respondents indicating satisfaction with their park visits

Seventy-nine per cent of the respondents who indicated that they had visited a provincial park in 2006 were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience. The level of satisfaction is up two per cent from 77 per cent in a similar survey carried out after the 2005 summer park season. The 75th anniversary celebrations and very good weather may have been contributing factors to an increase in satisfaction.



[Source: Saskatchewan Omnibus Poll]

Saskatchewan Environment provides access to natural and cultural areas and recreational facilities and services in our provincial parks. Park visitor satisfaction levels assess, from the visitor's perspective, the results of these activities. Saskatchewan Environment's parks-related programs and facilities directly influence visitor satisfaction.

While this measure is a good indicator of satisfaction, that may only be an indirect indicator of accessible recreational and educational opportunities. This satisfaction level may not reflect the sustainability of the resource either.

Objective 3 - Increased Economic Benefits Based on Sustainable Use of Natural Renewable Resources

Sustainable use of natural resources contributes more than $1 billion to the provincial economy. Forestry initiatives in northern Saskatchewan maintain thousands of jobs and provide opportunities to expand business. Nature-based tourism from hunting, fishing and camping generates more than $453 million of expenditures annually. This added $126 million to the provincial GDP and created 3591 full-time-equivalent jobs.

Saskatchewan Environment programs seek to identify, promote, and develop opportunities for additional use of natural resources with the involvement and support of affected communities, the private sector, Aboriginal groups, and other users of the landscape. Activities supporting this process include identifying the size and accessibility of resources and assessing the potential for sustainable use. During 2006-07, Saskatchewan Environment maintained programs and services in support of this objective, though some

redirection of effort was necessary to respond to emerging priorities related to oil, gas and mineral exploration.

Saskatchewan Environment has six output measures for this objective. The objective focuses on both economic impacts and sustainable use. One of the measures focuses on sustainable use, though it is limited to the forested area of the Province; another measure is an indicator of economic impact of provincial parks; the third is a proxy measure of economic impact; and the fourth is a measure of use of one resource. Over time, the Department will bring greater consistency to its economic performance measures and broaden its sustainable use measures to encompass more resources.

Key Results

- Work with Forestry Secretariat to build a new forest industry strategy for Saskatchewan. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Strategy options were developed to provide the necessary background information and technical advice to the Forest Secretariat. Support was provided as requested.

- Implement the forest management planning component of the Forest Planning Manual in the development of the new Mistik Forest Management Plan. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. A background document was submitted by Mistik Management and reviewed by Forest Services Branch. The date for final approval has been extended to 2007-08.

- Spray approximately 40,000 hectares of the commercial forest to protect it from spruce budworm. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed as planned.

- Support efforts to establish agro-forestry in the Province. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Data and information was provided as requested.

- Conduct public and stakeholder consultations as a prerequisite for drafting a new Provincial Fisheries Management Plan. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Open house consultations completed in over 22 communities. Round-table forums delayed to next fiscal year to accommodate additional community and First Nations consultations.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares of the Provincial forest meeting basic level of forest management (fire suppression, licensed harvest, standards including renewal, consultation)

2004-05	2005-06	Change
5,393,984 ha	5,393,984 ha	0

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Forest Service Branch]
Modifications to this measure were made during 2006-07 to allow for greater accuracy in the calculation of the area.

The number of hectares of the Provincial forest meeting basic level of forest management has remained the same.

Basic level of forest management refers to having a licensed harvest that follows some standards of practice, where some form of consultation takes place with affected stakeholders prior to harvest, where trees get planted after harvest, and where fire suppression will be initiated to protect the resource. Term supply licences within specified areas would qualify as basic level of forest management.

By monitoring this performance measure we will get an indirect sense the economic benefits realized from the management of different forest values and if they are being maintained in the long term.

Number of hectares of the Provincial forest meeting enhanced level of forest management (basic forest management plus approved Forest Management Plan, Forest Management Effects Monitoring Plan implemented, trust fund established for forest renewal)

2004-05	2005-06	Change
7,312,260 ha	7,312,260 ha	0

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Forest Service Branch]
Modifications to this measure were made during 2006-07 to allow for greater accuracy in the calculation of the area.

The number of hectares of the Provincial forest meeting an enhanced level of forest management has remained the same.

By establishing these two performance measures, the Department is better able to reflect the extent to which the provincial forest is being managed for long term environmental sustainability. The Department will use this measure to monitor progress as industry improves their forest management practices from meeting the basic requirements to more environmentally superior and value added management techniques.

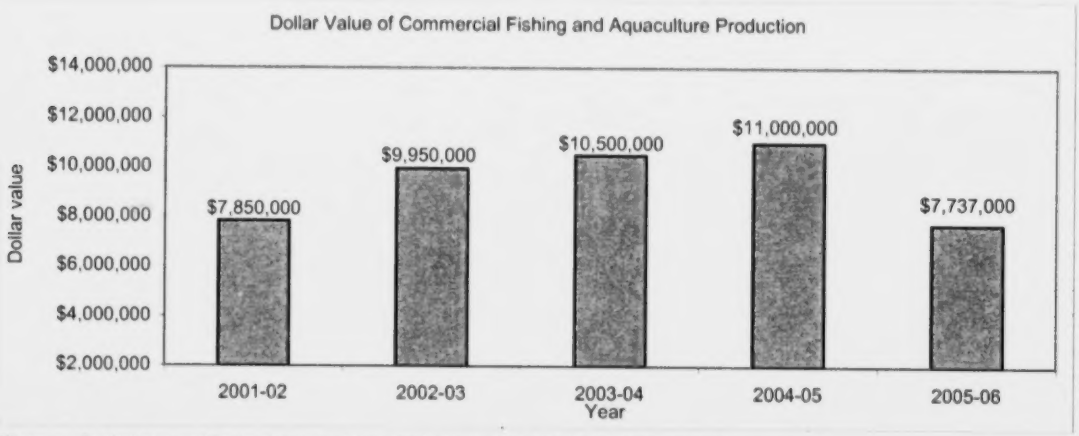
Enhanced level of forest management refers to having met the basic level forest management requirements (fire suppression, licensed harvest, standards including renewal, consultation) plus Forest Management Plan and a Forest Management Effects Monitoring Plan.

By monitoring both basic and enhanced levels of forest management, these performance measure give an indirect sense of the economic benefits realized from the management of different forest values and if they are being maintained in the long term.

The Department has influence over these two measures because the Department determines and allocates the different forest tenure licences. All allocated areas in the commercial forest have a forest trust fund to ensure basic forest management to take place. Third party allocations within these allocated areas (Forest Management Agreements, Area Based Term Supply Licences, Island Forests) also realize basic forest management requirements.

Dollar value of commercial fishing and aquaculture production

The value of commercial fishing was over $7.7 million in 2005-06, a drop of $3.3 million since 2004-05. This drop in dollar value is a result of the drop in value of fish, as well as a decrease in the amount of fish caught.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment and the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation]
Note: The data has a lag time of more than one year.

This value considers all commercial fish product sales, licence sales, brine shrimp fishery and the overall value of the aquaculture industry in Saskatchewan.

Revenue to commercial fishers and value of aquaculture production contribute to the economy of the Province.

Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over this measure for commercial fishing through designating and assigning catch quotas for commercial fishing sites, and for aquaculture through evaluation and approval of commercial aquaculture proposals from the industry.

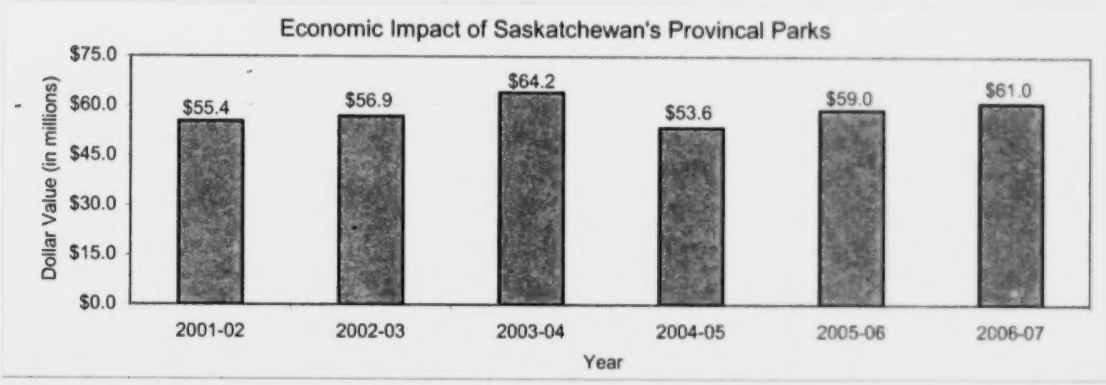
Factors such as market conditions, weather, forest fires and job changes by fishers affect the measurement results. The data to gauge progress towards this measure has a lag-time of more than one year.

This measure reflects the level of activity in commercial fishing and aquaculture production but is not a good indicator of resource sustainability.

Economic impact of Saskatchewan's provincial parks

$61.0 million in 2006-07.

The provincial parks make a significant contribution to the economy.



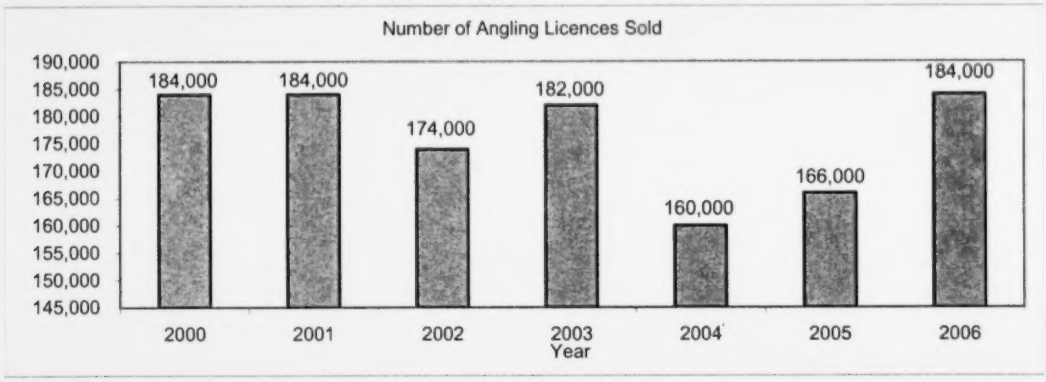
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Strategic Planning and Corporate Assessment Section]

Thirty-three per cent of all visits to provincial parks include tourists who come from outside the Province and Saskatchewan residents who travel more than 199 kilometres to a park. Any expenditure that they make during a stay at the park, and the Government's expenditures on provincial parks, increases the economic activity.

Factors such as weather and gas prices can impact the number of visits, length of stay and visitors' expenditures. Saskatchewan Environment has some influence on the economic impact as the Department determines length of operating season and annual infrastructure investment. This measure is a good indicator of economic benefits realized in the Province. Other indicators need to be established to determine the sustainability of the use of this resource.

Number of angling licences sold

There were 184,000 angling licences sold in the Saskatchewan last year. That is an increase of almost 11 per cent from 2005. Almost one quarter of the increase is a result of the free angling licences for Saskatchewan residents over 65 years of age.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Fish and Wildlife Branch]

Sport fishing is an important element of nature-based tourism that contributes approximately $200 million in expenditures to the economy of the Province. Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over sport fishing through fishing regulations. Factors like the weather, licence fees and sport fishing quotas affect sport fishing in the Province.

This measure is a very general indication of the economic activity in the sport-angling sector but is not an indicator of the sustainability of the resource.

Number of hunting licences sold

There were 197,000 hunting licences sold in Saskatchewan in 2006-07 and increase of seven per cent from the previous year.

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Fish and Wildlife Branch]

Hunting is a major component of nature-based tourism that contributes approximately $100 million in expenditures annually to the economy of the Province. It can also be used to support the sustainability of the resource through population management. This performance measure was added as a complementary piece to the number of fishing licences sold. It is a proxy for economic activity and capacity in the Province with respect to this natural resource. Saskatchewan Environment maintains the hunting license information annually. This is a quantitative output performance measure that measures the amount of Saskatchewan hunting licenses sold each year. Saskatchewan Environment will soon replace this measure with a measure of the economic impact of hunting in the Province.

- Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over hunting through regulations. Regulations have a direct impact on the amount of hunting that occurs in Saskatchewan. Factors such as licence fees and hunting quotas affect hunting in the Province. There are also uncontrollable factors such as the weather, wildlife populations and animal disease that have an impact on hunting in Saskatchewan.

Goal 4 – Shared Environmental Stewardship

Objective 1 – Comprehensive and Integrated Environmental Strategies

This objective reflects a strategic shift in the way the Department delivers its mandate. Many issues facing the environment are changing. They are often dispersed across the landscape, such as water pollution, air pollution and the invasion of exotic species. Others result from large numbers of small individual actions, such as habitat fragmentation. Still others cross provincial or national boundaries, such as climate change. These types of issues are more likely to be effectively handled through approaches featuring partnerships, education, economic instruments and technical innovation, rather than a more formal regulatory approach.

Saskatchewan Environment is gradually integrating increased emphasis on shared responsibility among the regulated community, non-government organizations, the public and the science/technical community into its regulatory approach. Saskatchewan Environment's strategy to pursue this goal now incorporates two main initiatives. The first is a Green Strategy for the Province. This government-wide plan will better integrate environmental, social and economic considerations through improvements to policy integration and regulatory reform, implementation of ecosystem-based approaches, and greater application of environmentally responsible technologies. The second is development of a compliance plan for the Department. The compliance plan focuses Department activities on higher risk issues, facilitates development of a wider range of non-regulatory tools and improved application of fees and permits. During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment made progress toward this objective on several fronts.

Saskatchewan Environment has focussed on recycling efforts in the Province as a performance measure for this objective. Recycling is a waste minimization indicator. The Province has among the highest recycling rates in Canada. Over the long term, we will maintain our high levels of recycling and increase the types of products recycled.

Key Results

- Lead implementation of a Government-wide Green Strategy that will complement the Action Plan on the Economy in the development of a green and prosperous economy. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - Completed. Green Strategy finalized and will be launched in April, 2007. www.saskatchewan.ca/green
- Implement provincial recycling programs for waste electronics (e-waste) and paint, and develop a recycling program for paper, plastics, glass and metal. [2006-07 Performance Plan]

- ~ Paint and E-waste programs both operating. Paint program was implemented on April 1, 2006 and the E-waste program was implemented on February 1, 2007.
- ~ Good progress made on developing a program for paper, plastics, glass and metal, or mixed materials. Final draft of Mixed Materials Recycling Program discussion paper completed and awaiting final comments from advisory committee.

- Lead the development and piloting of environmental stewardship plans in three government departments. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Scope broadened to Department sustainable development planning as a component of ongoing performance planning.

- Design and implement a system for sharing environmental monitoring information from federal, provincial, municipal, First Nation and private sector programs. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Draft report completed. Presented a pilot protocol regarding process, findings and recommendations to date.

Measurement Results

Per cent of scrap tires recycled

Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (SSTC) reached a 74 per cent collection rate. The per cent of scrap tires recycled has increase five per cent from 2005-06.
[Source: SSTC annual reports]

The number of scrap tires recycled is a waste minimization indicator. Scrap tires cause problems at landfills. They can be re-used to manufacture a number of commodities. The Department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program for the management of scrap tires. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of beverage containers recycled

Recovery rate for designated beverage containers was 87 per cent in 2006-07. This is a two per cent increase from the recycle rate attained in 2005-06.
[Source: SARCAN annual reports]

Beverage container recycling is a waste minimization indicator. Beverage containers are a litter control issue and a resource conservation opportunity. The Department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program. Market conditions and the level of refundable deposit fees determine the recycling rates.

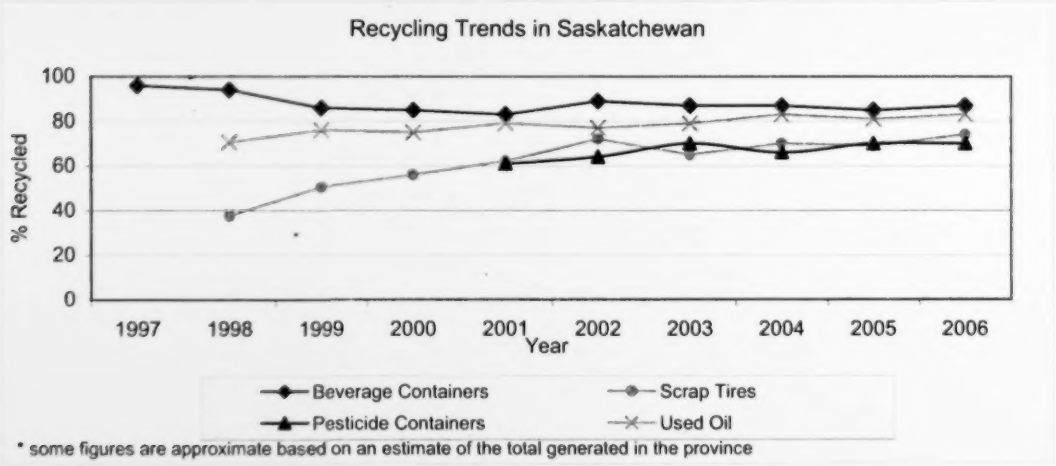
Per cent of pesticide containers recycled

As of March 31, 2006, 70 per cent of pesticide containers were recycled. This is the same level as is 2005-06.
[Source: Croplife Canada]

The number of pesticide containers recycled is a waste minimization indicator as well as an indicator of how well we are protecting our environment from potential chemical contamination. The Department does not have direct regulatory control or influence of this voluntary, industry-based program now in place to manage pesticide containers. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of used oil recycled

As of March 31, 2006, the per cent of used oil recycled increased to 83 per cent from a rate of 81 per cent in 2005-06.
[Source: SARRC annual reports]



[Source: External third party organization annual reports]
Note: Beverage container data is based on a fiscal year. The fiscal year 2005-06 is represented by 2005. All other data is based on calendar year.

Per cent of paint recycled

This is the first year for the collection of paint. In 2006-07, there were 16,359 litres of paint collected.
[Source: Saskatchewan Paint Stewardship Program]

Per cent of E-waste recycled

The E-waste program was initiated on February 1, 2007. In February and March 2007, there were 202.7 tonnes of E-waste was collected.
[Source: Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program]

This is the first fiscal year for the paint and electronic waste programs. Due the lag time between purchase and recycling, these numbers have not been given as a percentage.

In general recycling rates of products are an indicator of possible risks to people and the environment but are not a measure of the potential exposure of individuals to hazardous contaminants. Other measures will have to be considered to properly assess the effects of environmental contamination on human health.

For further information on recycling of these materials see:
www.scraptire.sk.ca
www.usedoilrecycling.com
www.se.gov.sk.ca/environment/recycle/
www.sarcsarcan.ca

Saskatchewan has among the highest recycling rates in Canada. Over the long term, we will maintain our high levels of recycling and increase the types of products recycled.

Recycling is a waste minimization indicator. Benchmark percentages reported in the recycling program are based on the proportion of total annual product sales in the Province. The Department administers the enabling regulations for a number of third-party stewardship programs. Saskatchewan Environment has no direct influence on the recycling rates; rather, market conditions determine these rates.

Objective 2 - First Nations and Métis Rights and Interests are Met Through Co-operative Means

The First Nation and Métis people have Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests in the renewable natural resources administered by Saskatchewan Environment. The Department is committed to accommodating these rights and interests while ensuring conflicts with other societal needs are resolved in a co-operative manner.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for helping to fulfill the terms of Saskatchewan Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Agreements as they relate to Crown resource land. During the year, Saskatchewan Environment reviewed 127 TLE selections involving Crown resource land, Crown land administered by other government departments and private land holdings. An additional 45 selection areas involving 181,369 acres of Crown resource land previously administered by Saskatchewan Environment are now designated as Reserve lands as a result of Saskatchewan Environment's efforts to implement the TLE agreements.

First Nations seek greater decision-making authority over resource management. Changing interpretation over the duty to consult continues to contribute to uncertainty in resource development. Department programs seek to engage Aboriginal groups, government departments, the federal government and other institutions in working relationships that address one or more of the following goals: ensuring recognition and respect for Treaty and Aboriginal rights; conservation of species and habitats; involvement of Aboriginal communities in economic benefits derived from renewable resources; and building the capacity of First Nation and Métis communities and organizations to effectively co-operate in environment and resource management program and policy development. Programs within the Department are designed to create conditions through Aboriginal employment and cultural awareness that enable Saskatchewan Environment to effectively respond to Aboriginal interests and rights. During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment made progress toward this objective on several fronts.

Saskatchewan Environment has one output measure for this objective. Over time the Department intends to develop a measure that provides insight on the effectiveness of its cooperative relationships with First Nations and Métis groups.

Key Results

- Increase Saskatchewan Environment's ability to work with the various Tribal Councils to deal with forestry, mining and other land use issues in northern Saskatchewan. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Additional staff hired and a review of partnerships completed with options identified to increase effectiveness.

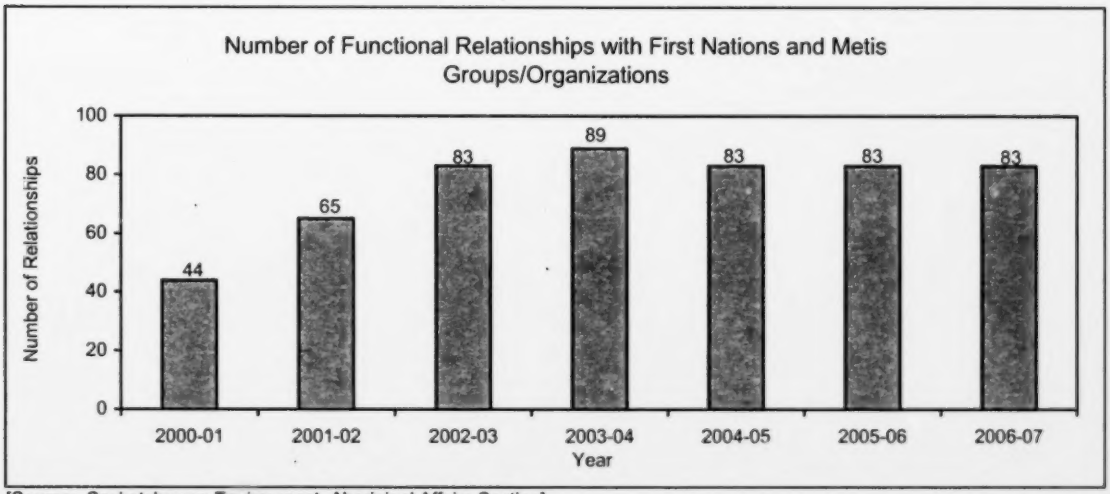
- Work co-operatively with Entitlement First Nations to help them acquire the land they are entitled to purchase pursuant to Treaty Land Entitlement Agreements. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. In 2006-07, Coordinated reviews and responded to 127 Treaty Land Entitlement selection requests involving 160,000 acres of Crown resource land, other Crown and private land holdings.

- In partnership with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, undertake consultations on a First Nations Environmental Strategy. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Completed contractual arrangements with Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations in support of First Nations Green Strategy consultations. Continued to work with Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations on hosting First Nations Green Strategy Consultation.

Measurement Results

Number of Co-operative Relationships with First Nations and Métis groups

The number of functional co-operative relationships continues to be maintained at the target of 83. Some agreements have reached maturity and although the formal agreements have dissolved, the functional relationships with First Nation and Métis groups are maintained while efforts to negotiate new agreements continue.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Aboriginal Affairs Section]

Functional co-operative relationships with First Nations and Métis groups can be formal (written) or informal (oral) agreements and arrangements can include consultation/communication, capacity building, resource management decision-making, conservation projects, interpretive programs, community justice, economic development initiatives in the resource management sector, land use planning, etc. All relationships provide a foundation on which the Department and the Aboriginal group or community can meet, discuss and continue working together.

Saskatchewan Environment and Aboriginal organizations are collaborating to create arrangements that result in benefits to the ecosystem, sustainable resource-based economic developments and improved consultation and Aboriginal involvement in decision-making.

A functional co-operative relationship with a First Nation organization, whether formal or informal, involves regular face-to-face meetings to address issues at hand or to develop mutually beneficial natural resource management policies.

The Department has direct influence over these relationships through the ability to establish formal agreements and/or through addressing controversial resource management issues by face-to-face discussions.

This measure is an indicator of the Department's effort to meet the needs and interests of these groups. However, this measure may not reflect the ability of the Department to meet the rights and interests of First Nations and Métis peoples. This measure is not an indicator of the breath or depth of these shared environmental stewardship relationships and their impact on the environment.

Objective 3 - Strengthened and Comprehensive Compliance Strategies

Compliance efforts are used to achieve Saskatchewan Environment's goals and objectives. The compliance function is the effort that directly encourages the community to conduct themselves in accordance with requirements established by law, or to take action for positive effects on the environment. The Department's compliance model seeks to encourage voluntary compliance through information and education. When voluntary compliance appears to fail, efforts shift to prevention through targeted physical inspection, direct interaction and, when necessary, investigation and enforcement.

Saskatchewan Environment's scan and risk assessment suggests that environmental problems require a more sophisticated combination of compliance tools, as well as more focussed and risk-based management approaches that prioritize compliance and enforcement activities. During 2006-07, Saskatchewan Environment made excellent progress in accomplishing key results in this area. Efforts are also being made to carefully match compliance tools to type and level of risk.

The Department has one output performance measure for this objective. The measure is focussed on an activity where compliance is critical to human health and where the Department has been working to improve compliance. Over time, the Department will develop measures to provide improved perspective on rates of compliance in some of the key areas of environmental impact and potentially to provide perspective on the breadth of strategies used by the Department to improve compliance.

Key Results

- Implement a risk-based annual compliance plan including responses to high risk issues. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Excellent progress made on this action. Compliance plans were implemented for each of the compliance areas and progress was made on addressing high risk issues within each of the compliance areas.

- Establish a specialized environmental prosecutor in Saskatchewan Justice. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Environmental prosecutor in place and leading the review and action on a number of high risk resource and environmental issues.

- Implement the water and wastewater compliance protocol to attain compliance with drinking water regulatory requirements. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. A Waterworks System Assessment compliance strategy was developed and implemented. Operator certification strategy and consumer notification strategies were implemented. Training was provided for Environmental Protection Officers. Several education/compliance actions were taken to advance both initiatives. Saskatchewan Environment continued to address water and wastewater non-compliance issues in accordance with established protocols.

- Strengthen northern compliance and enforcement capacity to respond to increasing environment and resource management issues in the North. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Completed. Excellent progress made on strengthening northern compliance and enforcement capacity by staffing four northern Conservation Officer vacancies.

Measurement Results

Number of waterworks that do not meet Saskatchewan Environment's minimum treatment requirements (broken down by pre and post regulatory changes)

	March 31, 2004	March 31, 2005	March 31, 2006	March 31, 2007	Annual Change
Waterworks regulated before regulatory changes	20	17	9	8	↓1
Waterworks regulated following regulatory changes	5	7	5	8	↑3
Total	25	24	14	16	↑2

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment – Environmental Management System]

As of March 31, 2007 there are a total of 16 waterworks that do not meet Saskatchewan Environment's minimum treatment requirements. The above table provides a summary of waterworks not meeting minimum treatment requirements broken down by pre and post regulatory changes. This is an increase of two waterworks from 2006. This is the result of further waterworks being added to the listing of systems regulated by Saskatchewan Environment. The inspection of these new works revealed some deficiencies.

The owner of the waterworks primarily controls the achievement of this performance measure; however, the regulator has significant influence through a number of mechanisms. Periodically, as newly regulated waterworks are permitted, inadequacies in water treatment capability are discovered, an increase in newly regulated waterworks not meeting minimum treatment will occur.

Safe drinking water is critical to human health. Meeting minimum treatment requirements is a measure of infrastructure water treatment capability, and therefore of the safety of drinking water that they produce. Saskatchewan Environment has a high level of influence over this measure through the Department's regulations; however, because of significant costs for treatment upgrades, communities need time and encouragement to comply. Saskatchewan Environment's staff are working with communities to help them understand the importance of meeting these requirements and to encourage them to improve their performance in providing safe drinking water.

This measure is a good indicator of the ability of communities to comply with government requirements regarding safe drinking water.

Rate of detection of non-compliance with environmental laws and regulations

Baseline to be determined.

Saskatchewan Environment has begun collecting the information for this measure; however, the Department was not able to collect enough information to report accurately. Saskatchewan Environment will continue gathering data and will report the results next year.

Objective 4 - Effective and Efficient Environmental Approval and Regulatory Processes

One of Saskatchewan Environment's key roles is to provide the environmental approval and regulations that govern people's actions so the quality of the environment is protected for future generations. The Department manages impact on the environment in several ways but two of the most important review and regulatory mechanisms are The Environmental Assessment Act and The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002. The Environmental Assessment Act provides a primary means to ensure that the economic development of Saskatchewan proceeds with adequate safeguards and in a manner that is both understood by and acceptable to the public. A developer prepares an environmental impact statement early in the planning and design phase of a proposed development to document its potential social, cultural, economic and biophysical impacts. Through The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002, the Department manages the environmental impacts of developments once they are completed and operating. This is accomplished through numerous regulations and less formal tools such as permits, establishing standards and guidelines, promoting industry best practices and environment management systems.

Saskatchewan Environment's services are driven by caseload, which is dictated by the nature and number of development proposals or completed new developments in the Province in a given year. On average about 250 project proposals are reviewed annually with six to ten of them necessitating an environmental impact assessment.

In recent years, much work has been done in conjunction with the oil and gas, mining and transportation industries to streamline the Department's various approval and permitting processes.

During 2006-07 Saskatchewan Environment maintained its gradual progress toward this objective. Saskatchewan Environment developed one performance measure for this objective. The Department chose a measure of client satisfaction, from a third-party mining industry survey conducted on a regular basis.

Key Results

- Review and revise Saskatchewan Environment's legislative and regulatory framework in support of a new environmental management model that increases our options of tools to encourage compliance while emphasizing performance and outcomes, rather than prescriptive regulation. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Risk assessment instrument for Saskatchewan Environment's legislation and regulations developed and used to complete risk assessments on all legislation and regulations within all branches. Legislative Review Committee reviewed and prioritized acts and regulations containing the most risk.
  - ~ Recommendations for legislative reform are being compiled on a branch by branch basis. Final report and recommendations drafted.

- Complete three additional results-based standards in support of the new regulatory framework necessary to implement and enforce sustainable forest management. [2006-07 Performance Plan]
  - ~ In progress. Good progress made on two of three standards. Work will continue into 2007-08.

Measurement Results

Provincial ranking with respect to mining industry satisfaction with environmental regulations

Ranking	2004	2005
1st	Manitoba	Quebec
2nd	Quebec	Manitoba
3rd	Alberta	Alberta
4th	New Brunswick	Ontario
5th	Ontario	Newfoundland and Labrador
6th	Newfoundland and Labrador	**Saskatchewan**
7th	**Saskatchewan**	New Brunswick
8th	Nova Scotia	Yukon
9th	Yukon	British Columbia
10th	Nunavut	Nova Scotia
11th	Northwest Territories	Northwest Territories
12th	British Columbia	Nunavut

[Source: Annual survey by Fraser Institute]
No data for Prince Edward Island
This performance measure was expanded to include all of Canada.

This is a qualitative measure of the opinions of the mining industry regarding Saskatchewan's environmental regulations

The Provincial ranking with respect to the mining industry satisfaction with environmental regulations indicates how Saskatchewan is doing in comparison to the rest of Canada. It gives a basis to analyse the effectiveness and acceptability of the policies and regulations that Saskatchewan Environment has in place that affect the mining industry.

Saskatchewan Environment has a great deal of direct influence on the mining industry through the environmental regulations required for the industry.

Other Key Accomplishments

- Processed 5,566 exploration and development environmental reviews in support of the oil and gas industry and 244 mineral exploration proposals.
- Hosted 2.5 million visitors at 34 parks throughout the Province.
- Conducted inspections of 832 waterworks, 547 sewage works.
- Conducted 406 landfill inspections over last two years (2005-07).
- Facilitated the development and passing of The Forestry Professions Act.
- Completed a 2006 work plan with municipalities and the Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association to control Dutch Elm Disease.
- Supported development of Saskatchewan's Energy and Climate Change Plan.
- Continued to deliver Respectful Workplace initiatives.
- Implemented a succession management program and the Department's sixth formal mentoring program.
- 77 precautionary drinking water advisories and eight emergency boil water orders were issued for waterworks regulated by Saskatchewan Environment during the fiscal year. The numbers of advisories and orders issued are substantially down from 2003-04 when 107 and 16 were ordered.

- Alcohol ban in provincial parks was implemented for the long weekend in May resulted in a decrease in property damage and fewer complaints.
- Implemented Saskatchewan Environment's Occupational Health and Safety Strategic Plan delivering workshops, purchasing personal protective equipment and completing safe work procedures.
- Maintained the ISO 14001 certification of Saskatchewan Environment's forestry program's environmental management system.
- Processed 135 documents for Cabinet's consideration and presented one workshop on preparing Cabinet documents.
- Green technology was incorporated into capital project requirements and recycling themes built into park operations and interpretive programs.
- Significantly increased Department's accounts receivable management, adding dedicated resources specifically to collection activity.
- Increased financial management capacity by eighteen person months or 50 per cent between 2005-06 and 2006-07. The Department now has eight professional accountants on staff including five in manager/supervisor roles.
- Improved completeness and accuracy of financial records through confirmation of existing capital assets.
- Fully addressed 7 of 25 (30 per cent) outstanding recommendations from the Provincial Auditor including achieving acceptable segregation of duties over the revenue cycle.
- Improved segregation of duties over the expenditure cycle in all branches, including identification of "at risk" locations with segregation problems, and action plans to address issues in the short term.
- Improved content and timeliness of internal audit reporting to senior management
- Improved inventory procedures for several branches leading to improved annual audit processes and documentation.

Summary of Saskatchewan Environment's 2006-07 Performance Plan

The 2006-07 Performance Plan builds on the 2005-06 Performance Plan. The goals and objectives of the plan are to be realized over the long-term. Key actions are to be implemented during the current fiscal year to contribute to the longer-term goals and objectives.

2006-07 Goals

In 2006-07, a new objective was added to Saskatchewan Environment's four main goals. Objective 2: "Safe and Sustainable Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems" has been added this year under the goal of Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems. This new addition reflects the Department's responsibility to deliver its commitments from the intergovernmental Safe Drinking Water Strategy.

Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

Objective 1: Reduced Impacts to Surface and Groundwater Quality
Objective 2: Safe and Sustainable Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems
Objective 3: Reduced Risks to the Health of the People and the Environment from Air Quality
Objective 4: Reduced Risks to People and the Environment from Contaminated Land
Objective 5: Healthy Ecosystems that Support Native Biological Diversity are Stable and Capable of Self-Repair

Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

Objective 1: Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk
Objective 2: Increased Capacity of Individuals, Communities, Industries and Others to Take Responsibility for Reducing Fire Hazards and Wildfires

Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

Objective 1: Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources
Objective 2: Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands
Objective 3: Increased Economic Benefits Based on Sustainable Use of Natural Renewable Resources

Goal 4: Shared Environmental Stewardship

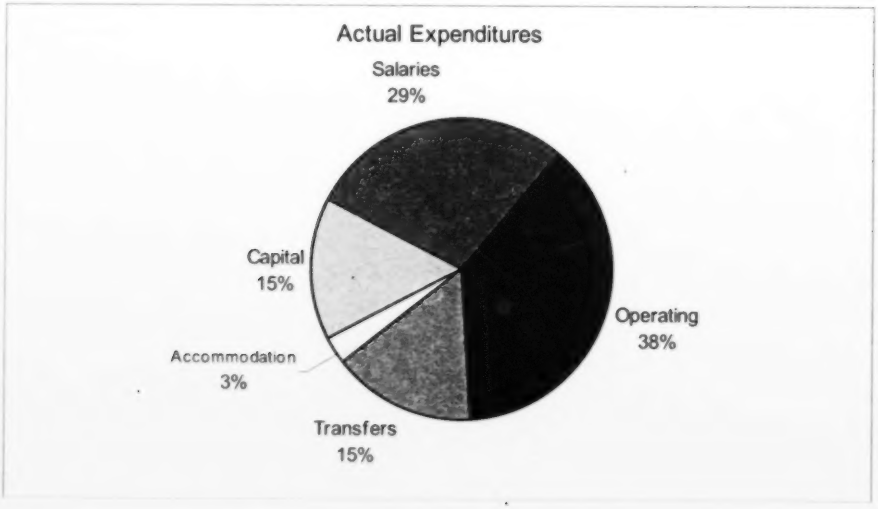
Objective 1: Comprehensive and Integrated Environmental Strategies
Objective 2: First Nations and Métis Rights and Interests are Met Through Cooperative Means
Objective 3: Strengthened and Comprehensive Compliance Strategies
Objective 4: Effective and Efficient Environmental Approval and Regulatory Processes

2006-07 Financial Results

Expenditures

The Department's original expenditure estimate for 2006-07 was $202.5 million. Including the projected capital expenditure of $28.3 million and the associated amortization expense of $5.5 million, the Department's total approved expense for 2006-07 was $179.7 million. In November, the Department received an additional $12.9 million which resulted in a revised expenditure estimate of $215.371 million and a revised expense amount of $185.6 million.

Total 2006-07 expenses were $185.9 million, a variance of $263,000 from the revised estimates. The significant variances are explained in the expenditure table below.



Summary of Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Subvote	2006-07 Estimates ($000s)	Supp. Estimates ($000s)	Actual Expenditure ($000s)	Variance Over/(Under) ($000s)	
ER01 Executive Management	1,310		1,307	(3)	
ER02 Central Management Services and Accommodation	17,454		18,262	808	
ER08 Compliance and Field Services					
Field Operations	10,750		11,289	539	
Compliance and Enforcement	4,503		4,269	(234)	
Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund - Net Financing Requirement (Statutory)	0		312	312	
Subvote Total	15,253		15,870	617	
ER09 Forest Services					
Forest Programs	7,634		7,689	55	
Reforestation	3,292		3,237	(55)	
Insect and Disease Control	2,106		1,975	(131)	
Forestry Secretariat	1,350		740	(610)	(1)
Subvote Total	14,382		13,641	(741)	
ER10 Fire Management and Forest Protection					
Forest Fire Operations	65,502		63,915	(1,587)	
Recoverable Fire Suppression Operations	1,400	900	2,077	(223)	(2)
Fire Capital	26,814	7,000	31,589	(2,225)	
Subvote Total	93,716	7,900	97,581	(4,035)	
ER11 Environmental Protection					
Air and Land	4,021		4,099	78	
Beverage Container Collection and Recycling System	11,348		11,744	396	
Drinking Water Quality Section	3,096		2,838	(258)	
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Operations	919		919	0	
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Water Control	3,787		3,787	0	
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Water Quality	1,831		1,831	0	
Subvote Total	25,002		25,218	216	
ER15 Resource Stewardship	7,985		8,332	347	
ER07 Fish and Wildlife Development Fund					
Fish Development	1,657		1,657	0	
Wildlife Development	1,715		2,065	350	(3)
Subvote Total	3,372		3,722	350	
ER04 Parks and Special Places					
Park Programs	2,804		3,153	349	(4)
Facilities Capital	3,934		4,395	461	(5)

Subvote	2006-07 Estimates ($000s)	Supp. Estimates ($000s)	Actual Expenditure ($000s)	Variance Over/(Under) ($000s)	
Commercial Revolving Fund - Subsidy	5,448		6,098	650	(6)
Commercial Revolving Fund - Net Financing Requirement (Statutory)	0		1,150	1,150	(7)
Meewasin Valley Authority (Statutory)	740		740	0	
Meewasin Valley Authority Supplementary	90		90	0	
Wakamow Valley Authority (Statutory)	127		127	0	
Wakamow Valley Authority Supplementary	15		15	0	
Wascana Centre Authority (Statutory)	782		782	0	
Wascana Centre Authority Supplementary	95		595	500	(8)
Wascana Centre Authority Maintenance	1,877		1,877	0	
Prince Albert Pehanon Parkway	135		135	0	
Swift Current Chinook Parkway	88		88	0	
Battlefords River Valley Park	55		73	18	(9)
Weyburn Tatagwa Park	39		39	0	
Subvote Total	16,229		19,357	3,128	
ER14 Planning & Risk Analysis					
Planning & Evaluation	5,369		5,028	(341)	
Great Sand Hills Regional Environmental Study	1,609		1,557	(52)	
Environmental Assessment	790		757	(33)	
Green Initiatives		5,000	4,663	(337)	
Subvote Total	7,768	5,000	12,005	(763)	
Subtotal	**202,471**	**12,900**	**215,295**	**(76)**	
Capital Assets Acquisitions	(28,277)	(7,000)	(32,810)	(2,467)	
Capital Assets Amortization	5,545		3,417	(2,128)	
Total Expense	**179,739**	**5,900**	**185,902**	**263**	

Explanation of Variances:

(1) Due to the inability to deliver Aboriginal consultations in 2006-07.
(2) Due to an overestimation of the additional funds that were required as provided in the supplementary estimates.
(3) Increased sales of angling and hunting licenses lead to an increased transfer to the FWDF.
(4) Due to the net result of a $200,000 grant to regional parks, $118,000 in capital purchases by the CRF, $45,000 in increased salaries due to the new collective bargaining agreement and vacancy management.
(5) Mainly due to capital upgrades at Blackstrap Ski Hill.
(6) Due to the implementation of the Seniors Gold Plan ($300,000), changes in accounting policy and the recently negotiated CBA.
(7) The total annual financing requirement results from changes in inventory, accounts payable, and accounts receivable and the net cash flows from operations in the CRF.
(8) Due to the one-time injection of $500,000 to Wascana Centre Authority to address increased operating, maintenance and utility costs.
(9) Due to an Order in Council amending its original agreement with Battlefords River Valley Park to reflect the combined populations of Battleford and North Battleford in the per capita grant calculation.

Capital Assets

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for a vast array of capital assets such as the fire suppression air fleet and infrastructure, and parks facilities and infrastructure managed by the Department. These assets figure strongly in Saskatchewan Environment's capital plan because of the essential role they play in program delivery.

Capital assets purchased or constructed by the Department are stated at cost, which includes the purchase price and other acquisition costs such as installation, legal fees and design and engineering fees. The Department also capitalizes all direct costs relating to projects under construction and other administrative costs directly attributable to the construction or development activity. The estimated useful lives of capital assets range from five to forty years.

As of March 31, 2007, Saskatchewan Environment's total capital assets have a net book value of approximately $94 million ($76.2 million in 2006). The majority of these assets are in fire and parks programs.

During 2006-07, the Department spent $34 million for capital acquisitions of which $27.9 million was directed to fire aerial fleet renewal and fire detection tower projects.

To date, Cabinet has approved Phase 1 and 2 of the fire fleet renewal plan at a cost of approximately $137 million. Phase 1 concluded in 2006-07 with Phase 2 wrapping up in 2010-11.

At the completion of Phase 1 and 2, the Province's fire fleet will include four CV580A's that will replace the older De Havilland Tracker air tankers and additional birddog aircrafts used to guide the air tankers to their targets. Work will have commenced on the conversion of the CL-215's to turbine engines, and the rehabilitation of supporting infrastructure such as fuel and retardant storage facilities, aprons, runways and tarmacs will be in progress.

A proposal for Phase 3 will be presented to Cabinet for approval in summer 2007. If it is approved, the work is scheduled to begin in 2007-08 and be completed by 2010-11. The total cost for the 3-phase aerial fire fleet renewal strategy would be approximately $220 million.

Thirty-eight fire observation towers are in operation for the 2006 fire season. An additional twelve observation towers will be constructed over the next three budget years in order to complete the tower network. Saskatchewan Environment has a legal responsibility/mandate to manage wildfires and the development and implementation of a comprehensive fire tower network is a fundamental building block to meet this mandate.

Most of Saskatchewan's provincial park core area facilities, including drinking water and wastewater systems, are reaching or are being maintained beyond their useful life. It is estimated that parks facilities and infrastructure would cost $256 million to replace.

In 2006-07 the parks facilities capital program improved, built or restored several of the existing park facilities and infrastructure. Some of the projects included:

- new campground electrification expansion at Saskatchewan Landing and Meadow Lake Provincial Parks
- sewer and water infrastructure upgrades at Saskatchewan Landing, Douglas, Meadow Lake, Lac La Ronge, Buffalo Pound, Moose Mountain, Greenwater Lake Provincial Parks
- campground electrification upgrading at Echo Valley Provincial Park
- new boat launch at Moose Mountain Provincial Park
- boat launch replacement at Lac La Plonge
- new field office at Christopher Lake
- new maintenance building at Narrow Hills Provincial Park
- service centre upgrades at Meadow Lake Provincial Park
- new green campground development at Meadow Lake Provincial Park
- cafe building/visitor centre renovations at Cypress Hills Provincial Park
- new interpretive trail at Meadow Lake Provincial Park

To prioritize major capital acquisitions in the Parks Facilities Capital, representatives from throughout the Department review the existing condition of park assets and prioritize the capital projects scheduled for the next three years. Projects are prioritized based on their ability to meet or contribute to:

- health, safety and environmental protection standards
- reduction of maintenance and operational costs
- improved resource protection
- enhanced educational opportunities
- increased park visitor access and satisfaction

Parks Branch is currently working on a detailed, long-range plan for the parks system that will be released in 2007-08. It will be based on a strategic framework and priority actions identified for each park through public consultations.

For the Year Ended March 31, 2007 (In thousands of dollars)

	Land and Buildings	Machinery and Equipment	Transportation Equipment	Office and Information Technology	Infrastructure	Total 2007	Total 2006
Cost:							
Opening Cost	31,966	10,322	52,126	6,150	4,047	104,611	48,938
Add: Acquisitions	3,238	3,365	24,921	58	2,446	34,028*	41,322
Transfers internal - from/(to)					(1,905)	(1,905)	16,929
Less: Writedowns	867	542	10,591	325	85	12,410	2,567
Less: Disposals	59	11				70	11
Closing Cost (A)	34,278	13,134	66,456	5,883	4,503	124,254	104,611
Accumulated Amortization:							
Opening balance	13,065	5,646	5,514	3,225	942	28,392	15,916
Add: Annual Amortization	1,257	543	687	631	299	3,417	2,980
Transfers internal - from/(to)							10,966
Less: Disposals/Write-downs	348	449	405	313	9	1,524	1,470
Closing balance (B)	13,974	5,740	5,796	3,543	1,232	30,285	28,392
Net Book Value (A-B)	20,304	7,394	60,660	2,340	3,271	93,969	76,219

* The actual acquisitions in 2006-07 were $32.810 million. The $34.028 million includes $1.218 million to adjust prior year amounts.

Information on Third Party Funding

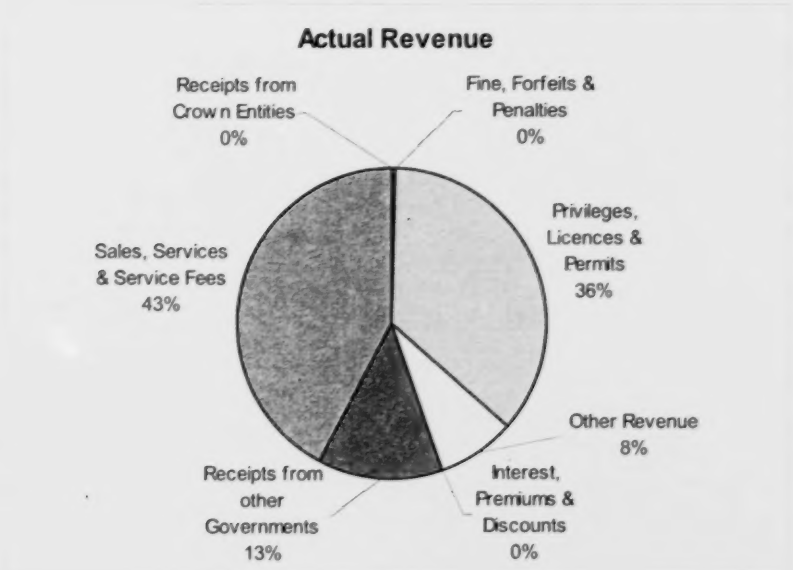
Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid ($000s)
Agency Chiefs Tribal Council	Forest restructuring grant	20
Beverly - Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board	Operating grant	15
Canadian Council of Forest Ministers' Secretariat	Sustainable Forest Management and Science and Technology Working Group – special purpose account agreement	65
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment	Annual contribution in support of CCME business plan	32
Canadian Water Resources Association	Conference sponsorship	10
Central Regional Landfill Waste Management Authority	Regional waste management funding	16
Craik, Town of	Green Initiatives funding to support the Craik Sustainable Living Project Interactive Display and Seminar Series	60
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations	June 2006 Summit Workshop	5
Fish & Wildlife Development Fund	Operating grant – 30 per cent of revenues collected by the Province on certain angling and hunting licenses issued.	3,722
Fish & Wildlife Development Fund	Green Initiatives funding to support management of invasive alien species	500
Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada	Operating grant - participation in joint silvicultural and small-scale operations programs	11
Fur Institute of Canada	Funding for trap research and development program, standard development, trapper education and public information programs	11
Great Plains Fisheries Workers Association	Funding for GPFWA 56th Annual Workshop	5
Highway 55 Waste Management Corporation	Regional waste management funding	23
Kyle, Town of	Regional waste management funding	13
Lac La Ronge Regional Waste Management Corp.	Regional waste management funding	25
Lieutenant Governor's Leadership Forum	Annual membership in support of LGL programs	10
Meewasin Valley Authority	Urban park statutory and supplementary payments	830
Moose Jaw, City of	Funding for Household Hazardous Waste Days	10
National Forest Strategy Coalition	Contribution toward the federal/provincial agreement for the "National Forest Strategy Development"	5
Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan Inc.	Workshop sponsorship	10
North Battleford, City of	Urban Park Payment (River Valley)	73
North Central Saskatchewan Waste Management	Regional waste management funding	40

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid ($000s)
North Valley Waste Management authority	Regional waste management funding	19
Northern Saskatchewan Trappers Association	Partnership funding for ongoing fur management	15
Northwest Regional Waste Management Authority	Regional waste management funding	31
Outlook, Town of	Regional waste management funding	18
Parkland Regional Waste Management Authority	Regional waste management funding	36
Porcupine Plain, town of	Regional waste management funding	12
Prairie Conservation Action Plan Office	Funding for administration	5
Prince Albert, City of	Urban Park payment (Pehanon Parkway)	135
Red Coat Waste Resource Authority Corporation	Regional waste management funding	35
Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve	Operational support of World Biosphere Reserve	60
Regional Authority of Carleton Trail	Regional waste management funding	40
Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers	Support professional development of conservation officers	7
Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres	Beverage Container collection and recycling program	11,744
Saskatchewan Co-operative Fisheries Limited	Operating grant	50
Saskatchewan Eco-Network Inc.	Operating grant as well as stakeholder partnership agreement	20
Saskatchewan Eco-Network Inc.	Green Initiatives funding to support development and operation of a green directory	15
Saskatchewan Environmental Industry & Management Association	Annual expo and trade show sponsor, and 06-07 Directory and Buyers Guide publication sponsor	32
Saskatchewan Forestry Association	Corporate annual membership grant	15
Saskatchewan Organic Directorate Inc.	Green Initiatives funding to support the organic mentorship program	210
Saskatchewan Regional Parks	Provide assistance for operational requirements and organizational development to support the local regional park boards	275
Saskatchewan Research Council	Funding to Office of Energy Conservation to implement climate change programs	45
Saskatchewan Research Council	Green Initiatives funding to support green energy incentives	1,400
Saskatchewan Science Centre Inc.	Green Initiatives funding to support a new exhibit	25
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board	Funding for Guard Dog Subsidy Program	5
Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council	Operational grant for sustaining membership	6
Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board	Legislative	43
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority	Financial support to SWA that has a mandate to manage water supplies and protect source water quality	6,537

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid ($000s)
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority	Green Initiatives funding for water conservation and source water protection	833
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation	Funding for annual convention	5
Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Association	Regional waste management funding	40
Saskatoon Zoo Foundation	Green Initiatives funding to support capital projects	375
Saskatoon, City of	Funding for Household Hazardous Waste Days	40
Swift Current, City of	Urban Park payment (Chinook Parkway)	88
Swift Current, City of	Funding for Household Hazardous Waste Days	10
Touchwood Hills Regional Landfill Inc.	Regional waste management funding	18
Unity, Town of	Regional waste management funding	15
University of Regina	Great Sand Hills Study	1,250
University of Regina	Internship	8
University of Regina	Grant to Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative	45
University of Regina	Strategic Partnership Agreement	40
University of Saskatchewan	Support the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre	38
University of Saskatchewan	Funding Grant for research	10
University of Saskatchewan	Green Initiatives funding to support the Healthy River Ecosystem Assessment	80
Wakamow Valley Authority	Urban park statutory and supplementary payments	142
Wascana Centre Authority	Urban park statutory and supplementary payments	3,254
West Yellowhead Waste Resources Authority Inc.	Regional waste management funding	37
Weyburn, City of	Urban Park Payment (Tatagwa Parkway)	39
Other (individual grants less than $4,000)		21
TOTAL GRANTS 2006-07 – VOTE 026		**32,734**

Revenues

Saskatchewan Environment's forecast revenue for 2006-07 was $44.058 million; actual revenue recorded was $52.168 million. The majority of this revenue comes from environmental handling charges, hunting and angling license fees, forestry fees and dues, and receipt from other governments for recoverable fire suppression costs.


Actual Revenue
Receipts from Crown Entities 0%
Fine, Forfeits & Penalties 0%
Privileges, Licences & Permits 36%
Sales, Services & Service Fees 43%
Other Revenue 8%
Receipts from other Governments 13%
Interest, Premiums & Discounts 0%

Description of Revenue	2006-07 Budget ($000s)	2006-07 Actual ($000s)	Variance ($000s)	
Privileges, Licenses and Permits	20,604	18,754	(1,850)	
Sales, Services and Service Fees	13,992	22,082	8,090	(1)
Fine, Forfeits & Penalties		8	8	
Interest, Premiums and Discounts	22	47	25	
Receipts from Other Governments	5,791	6,711	920	(2)
Receipts from Crown Entities		156	156	
Other Revenue	3,649	4,410	609	(3)
Total Revenue Items	44,058	52,168	8,110	

Variance Explanations

(1) Due to an increase in sales of surplus equipment; more clients using the Saskatchewan Environment file searches than anticipated; SARCAN.

(2) Due to higher than anticipated fire activity on federal land within the Province; higher than anticipated export of fire fighters to other provinces; equipment billed in 3rd quarter deemed ineligible as per MARS agreement.

(3) Net correction of SARCAN error dating back to 2004-05 and clearing of previous years' accounts payable.

Treasury Board Crown Corporations

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) is a Treasury Board Crown. On October 1, 2002, the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority was established to manage and protect water quantity and quality. As part of the Government's Safe Drinking Water Strategy (SDWS), the Province consolidated the water management components from SaskWater, Saskatchewan Environment and the Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation into the Watershed Authority to focus on water management.

As a result, the authority is responsible for the allocation of ground and surface water inventory and analysis of water sources and the administration and control of all water infrastructure including operations and planning and the maintenance of provincially owned water management infrastructure. It is also SWA's responsibility to manage watershed and aquifer planning, to develop partnerships and projects that help provide healthy watersheds and provide assessment and monitoring practices that ensure the protection and restoration of the Province's water sources.

This responsibility is undertaken through the administration of the regulatory provisions of The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act.

SWA's annual report can be found at www.swa.ca.

Special Funds

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund

The Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) is a special purpose fund used by the Department to support habitat protection and management throughout the Province. Revenues are transferred to the fund based on an amount equivalent to 30 per cent of habitat license certificates and certain hunting, trapping and fishing license fees collected by the Province. Basic expenditures relate to habitat protection through the purchase of habitat and management and enhancement of habitat.

The FWDF supports Goal 3: Fair opportunity for sustainable use and enjoyment of renewable resources, Objective 1: Equitable allocation of natural renewable resources as well as Goal 1: Reduced risks to clean and healthy ecosystems, Objective 1: Reduce impacts to surface and groundwater quality through the ongoing funding support to the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2006-07 relating to the operations of the fund.

Audited Financial Statements will be available at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the Publications section of their website.

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund for the period ended March 31, 2007
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($000s)	Actual ($000s)	Variance ($000s)	
Revenue	3,890	4,636	746	(1)
Expenses:				
Fish Enhancement Projects	1,500	1,794	294	(2)
Wildlife Habitat Projects	2,090	1,816	(274)	(3)
Grant in Lieu of Taxes	300	320	20	
Rafferty/Alameda projects				
Total Expenses	3,890	3,930	40	
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	**0**	**706**	**706**	

Explanation of Variances
(1) Due to increased license sales, a $500,000 grant from the Department to coordinate an invasive species management program and increased interest revenue.
(2) Increase in operating grant to SWA ($199,000) and increase in salaries and associated expenses.
(3) Decrease in operating grant to SWA ($199,000) and decrease in aerial survey expenditures ($80,000).

Revolving Funds

Commercial Revolving Fund

The Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF) is the financing mechanism for collection and distribution of funds used in the operation of the Province's provincial parks, recreation sites and historical parks. The purpose of the revolving fund is to conduct commercial activities required for the promotion, development and management of provincial parks. The fund receives revenue from commercial activities that take place within the Province's parks and campgrounds such as camping, entry gate collection, cottage lot rental, commercial lease facilities, resource use activities and other miscellaneous items. Expenditures within the CRF relate to the operation of the provincial park system and are made to ensure safe public enjoyment of provincial parks and recreation sites.

The CRF operates under the authority of Section 18 of The Natural Resources Act. The Department of Environment administers the CRF.

The CRF supports Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources, Objective 2: Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands. The CRF contains the direct operating revenues and expenditures associated with delivering the provincial park program.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2006-07 relating to the operation of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements will be available at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their website.

Commercial Revolving Fund for the period ended March 31, 2007
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($000s)	Actual ($000s)	Variance ($000s)	
Revenue	9,990	10,436	446	
Expenses:				
Salaries	9,918	10,807	889	
Operating Expenses	5,520	6,526	1,006	(1)
Total Expenses	15,438	17,333	1,895	
Net Profit / (Loss)	**(5,448)**	**(6,897)**	**(1,449)**	
Subsidy from the GRF	**5,448**	**6,098**	**650**	
Net Profit / (Loss) after subsidy	**0**	**(799)**	**(799)**	

Explanation of Variances

(1) Due to the net result of a $1.294 million increase in contractual services related to the contract to run the Blackstrap Ski Hill, Meadow Lake cleanup, Candle Lake tree removal, increased cost of waste and sewage removal and campground electrification; a $79,000 decrease in travel and business expenses; a $86,000 decrease in supplies and services; a $26,000 increase in communication expenses related to the Legacy framework announcement; a $184,000 decrease in equipment expense; a $22,000 increase in both bad debt and interest changes; a $9,000 decrease in other expenses.

Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund

The Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund (RPDRF) is a funding mechanism used by the Department for cost allocation of operating expenditures that apply to the Radio Communications within the Department. Resource users are charged a fee based on the cost of providing the goods and services.

The RPDRF contains programs that support a number of goals and objectives within the Department. The Radio Communications segment support Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfire are Protected and Objective 5: Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk. The fund will be wound up in 2007-08; however, the Radio Communications program will continue to operate within the Fire Management and Forest Protection branch of the Department.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2006-07 relating to the operation of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements will be available at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their website.

Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund for the period ended March 31, 2007
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($000s)	Actual ($000s)	Variance ($000s)	
Revenue	1,410	1,575	165	(1)
Expenses:				
Salaries	740	1,037	297	(2)
Operating Expenses	670	705	35	
Total Expenses	1,410	1,742	332	
Net Profit / (Loss)	**0**	**(167)**	**(167)**	

Explanation of Variances
(1) Due to the fact that the SaskTel FleetNet 800 system was not shut down in 2006-07 as intended.
(2) Due to increased salary costs associated with the new collective bargaining agreement and the continuation of the SaskTel FleetNet 800 system.

Where to Obtain Additional Information

Saskatchewan Environment welcomes your comments and questions.

We can be contacted by email: inquiry@serm.gov.sk.ca
phone: Rick Bates at (306) 787-0114
or Saskatchewan Environment's Inquiry Centre, Prince Albert at (306) 953-3750
toll free in Saskatchewan 1-800-567-4224
or mail: 3211 Albert Street, REGINA SK S4S 5W6

Visit our website at www.se.gov.sk.ca

Appendix A - Administered Legislation

The Department derives its mandate, responsibilities and authority from a number of Acts and regulations under those Acts.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister of Environment are:

- The Clean Air Act protects Saskatchewan's air quality by regulating emissions that originate in the Province.
- The Conservation Easements Act encourages private landowners, conservation organizations and governments to protect ecologically sensitive lands and natural areas through voluntary agreements.
- The Ecological Reserves Act protects unique, natural ecosystems and landscape features through the designation of Crown land as ecological reserves.
- The Environmental Assessment Act provides a practical means to ensure that development proceeds with adequate environmental safeguards and in a manner broadly understood by and acceptable to the public through the integrated assessment of environmental impact.
- The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002 protects the air, land and water resources of the Province through regulating and controlling potentially harmful activities and substances.
- The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994 enables sustainable management of fisheries resources by affirming provincial ownership of fish, creating a provincial licensing system, and regulating allocation of fish resources, fish marketing, aquaculture, sport fishing and commercial fishing.
- The Forestry Professions Act establishes the Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals, an organization independent of government and industry, responsible for ensuring that its members maintain required standards for competency and conduct.
- The Forest Resources Management Act allows the Department to implement a framework for sustainable management of Saskatchewan's forest resources.
- The Grasslands National Park Act ratifies and validates the Grasslands National Park Agreement and allows the Province to transfer land to the federal government for inclusion in the Grasslands National Park.
- The Litter Control Act makes littering an offence and provides for the establishment and administration of a deposit refund system for various beverage containers.
- The Natural Resources Act (subject to OC 208/96) establishes the Province's mandate to manage, protect, conserve and develop renewable resources in a sustainable manner.
- The Parks Act provides authority for the management, administration and disposition of parkland and parkland reserves.
- The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, 1982 provides for the prevention, detection and suppression of prairie and forest fires originating in provincial forests, parks and on unoccupied Crown lands. It also governs compensation for conscripted fire fighters and authorizes establishment and regulation of fire bans and burning permit areas.

- The Provincial Lands Act creates authority for the management and transfer of Crown lands.
- The Regional Parks Act, 1979 allows the Minister to assist local governments and agencies in establishing regional parks and agencies to increase availability of parks to the public.
- The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act gives Cabinet the ability to place conditions on the transfer or lease of lands listed in a schedule to this Act.
- The State of the Environment Report Act provides for public accountability in reporting of environmental conditions and activities through the preparation and release of a State of the Environment Report every two years.
- The Water Appeal Board Act establishes the Water Appeal Board and enables the board to hear appeals regarding water, sewage and drainage issues.
- The Wildlife Act, 1998 provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife resources through the issuance and revocation of licences, the prosecution of wildlife offences and the establishment of annual hunting seasons.
- The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife lands and wildlife by preventing the sale and alteration of certain Crown lands.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority are:

- The Conservation and Development Act
- The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act
- The Water Power Act
- The Watershed Associations Act

Appendix B - Key Partners and Stakeholders

The organizations listed below are considered Saskatchewan Environment's primary partners/stakeholders because they:

- are provincial in scope,
- have a significant impact on the environment or natural resources,
- are involved in major current issues, or maintain a long-term relationship with the Department.

- Agency Chiefs Tribal Council
- Association of Saskatchewan Urban Park and Conservation Agencies
- Battlefords Tribal Council
- Cameco Corporation
- Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors (CAGC)
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
- Canadian Bankers Association
- Canadian Forest Service
- Canadian Heritage River System Board
- Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
- Canadian Plains Research Center
- Canoe Saskatchewan
- Claude Resources Inc.
- Climate Change Saskatchewan
- Cogema Resources Inc.
- Communities of Tomorrow
- Consumer's Co-operative/New Grade Upgrader
- Council of Saskatchewan Forest Industries
- Crop Life Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Enbridge Inc.
- Environment Canada
- Farm Woodlot Association of Saskatchewan
- Federal/Provincial Park Council
- Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
- File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council
- First Nations University of Canada
- Green Lake Métis Wood Products Ltd.
- Heritage Canada
- Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting
- Husky Oil
- IMC Kalium Canada Ltd.
- IPSCO Saskatchewan
- Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership
- L & M Wood Products Ltd.
- Meadow Lake Tribal Council
- MeeToos Forest Products Ltd.
- Meewasin Valley Authority
- Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) and MNS Regions
- Millar Western Industries Ltd.
- Mistik Management Ltd.
- Museums Association of Saskatchewan
- Nature Conservancy of Canada (Saskatchewan Division)
- Nature Saskatchewan
- New North
- NorSask Forest Products Ltd.
- Northwest Communities Wood Products Ltd.
- North West Municipalities Association
- Operator's Certification Board
- Parks Canada
- Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin
- Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA)
- Prince Albert Grand Council
- Prince Albert Pêhonân Parkway
- Provincial Association of Resort Communities of Saskatchewan (PARCS)
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Saskatchewan Action Foundation for the Environment
- Saskatchewan Archaeological Society
- Saskatchewan Association of Firearm Education (SAFE)
- Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC)
- Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation (SARRC)
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
- Saskatchewan Cooperative Fisheries Ltd.
- Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association
- Saskatchewan Eco Network

- Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association
- Saskatchewan Environmental Society
- Saskatchewan Forestry Association
- Saskatchewan Forestry Centre
- Saskatchewan Government and General Employees Union (SGEU)
- Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund Management Corporation
- Saskatchewan Independent Forest Industries
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST)
- Saskatchewan Mining Association
- Saskatchewan Nature and Ecotourism Association
- Saskatchewan Outfitters Association
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA)
- Saskatchewan Potash Producers Association
- Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Cabin Owners Association
- Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association (SRPA)
- Saskatchewan Research Council
- Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (SSTC)
- Saskatchewan Ski Association
- Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
- Saskatchewan Trappers Association
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)
- Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council
- Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board
- Saskatchewan Water and Wastewater Association
- Saskatchewan Watershed Authority
- Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Saskatchewan Wild Rice Council
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
- Saskatoon Tribal Council
- SaskEnergy
- Saskferco Products Inc.
- SaskPower
- SaskTel
- SASKTIP Inc.
- SaskWater
- Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada (SEPAC)
- Sterling Pulp Chemicals
- Swift Current Chinook Parkway
- Tolko Industries Ltd./Meadow Lake OSB
- Touchwood Agency Tribal Council
- Tourism Saskatchewan
- Trans Canada Trail Council
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan
- Wakamow Valley Authority
- Wascana Centre Authority
- Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Saskatchewan Division
- World Wildlife Fund
- Yorkton Tribal Council

Appendix C – Organizational Chart

Minister
Saskatchewan Environment
Deputy Minister
Saskatchewan Environment
Communications
Co-ordinates strategic communications.
Conservation Division
See below.
Finance and Administration
Financial policy, internal audit, and financial planning in year budget, payrolls, benefits, revenues, expenditures, space, inventory, purchasing and vehicles.
Environmental Management Division
See Below
Human Resources
Provides direction on human resource policy and issues, organizational and staff development, occupational health and risk management.
Lands and Forests Division
See Below
Compliance and Field Services
Provides conservation, environmental and resource management compliance and related field activities.
Fish and Wildlife
Develops and manages integrated fish, wildlife and ecosystem management program.
Parks
Develops policy for and operates the provincial park system, and provides capital facility management and development services for the Department.
Planning and Evaluation Branch
Corporate policy, planning, evaluation to produce effective and efficient decisions and Aboriginal Affairs
Environmental Assessment
Manages the Province's environmental assessment program with the support of an interdepartmental panel of representatives.
Environmental Monitoring
Promotes a strategic and integrated approach to environmental risk assessment, environmental monitoring and reporting.
Environmental Protection
Ensures province's environmental objectives are met. Sets standards and monitors compliance with environmental regulations, inspects and regulates high risk activities.
Green Policy
Lead development of a government-wide Green Strategy and Legislation Reform.
Fire Management and Forest Protection
Provides and coordinates forest fire management activities and policies.
Forest Services
Develops and manages integrated sustainable forest resource management programs and services
Geomatics
Coordinates the management and development of the department's information databases and technology
Lands
Coordinates, administers and develops land use planning initiatives, activities and dispositions, resource land management policies and the Treaty Land Entitlement Program.